



The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1854.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE news of the week may be put thus: It is probable that Sebastopol is taken, and it is certain that Lord Aberdeen has not resigned. The question of policy raised by our success at Sebastopol must now be discussed by the public, as well as by the Cabinet. For the present, it may be regarded by large classes, who have been oddly misled with respect to the character of the wisest and most conscientious of our public men, as a hopeful sign for the future of the war, that Lord Aberdeen, about whom there have been strange rumours the last few days, holds his post while Sebastopol is being besieged, and while Cronstadt is being pointed to as the next doomed fortress.

It is the leading journal which has begun to talk of Cronstadt. But we are not excited by that emphatic reference, because the leading journal is, as usual in that portion of the recess when official news is scarce, elaborately attempting the "popular"—in the same day in which it hailed for Cronstadt it sneered at the Austrian alliance—and because, also, the leading journal is, at present, rather incoherent. Judging from this sentence, which occurs in a literary review, it is competing by an accidental vagary with Mr. Disraeli's Asian mystery:—"The conclusion arrived at is the conclusion to which we are brought by all intelligent writers upon the coming destiny of nations, whether they be tourists or historians, men of science or men of the world. If we would cherish a hope of a brighter future, we must follow the sun and look still westward." Thus our stupendous contemporary is weak in his gossip about the divisions among the generals who have gone to Sebastopol; for if he knows of a coward and a fool—and his remarks point to some "distinguished officer" who is both—among our generals of division—surely he has the courage to name the man?

The great event in the Crimea fills the week; and diplomacy, entirely dependent on it, is suspended; so that, at least in England, we have the time and opportunity to decide for ourselves on the turn our diplomacy is next to take. The King of Belgium is certainly moving about; but that is a matter of course—he was always a *com-voageur* in his way. Everywhere there is observable a decided pause. We disbelieve all the stories of Prussian and Austrian approxima-

tion: both are waiting and watching. So in the Baltic: the Scandinavian States are neutral to an agonizing point—to themselves. Holland is proclaiming through her King's address to the States General that she is neutral—a communication parallel in importance to that of King Soultouque's to the same effect. Holland's neutrality in all politics is not temporary—it is historic. Nearly the whole of the King's address is occupied with details of happy material improvements. The appearance of *pause*, as a characteristic of the time, is observable in States altogether detached from the immediate European war. Sardinia, for instance, appears this week on the stage, but only in connection with an intention—an intention to enter on an intensely serious struggle with "the Church"—Rome herself pausing for a jubilee. Even on the other side of the Atlantic there is a re-"internal." The States have no more actual public work on hand than to cheer the "progress," great as Kossuth's or as Meagher's, of Gris and Mario; their real work is prospective—they are preparing for the elections. These elections turn apparently on points of subordinate influence on the world, and, therefore, perplexing everywhere beyond the States, even to the Americans in Europe, as the "American" who last week instructed the leading journal fully testifies. Know-Nothingism, the Nebraska Bill, and the Maine Law, are the points. As we have a Sabbatical Maine Liquor Law of our own, we may endeavour to comprehend the last point, and apply to our own country the moral. An interesting contrast might be made between these American "reforms," with analogous reforms of our own—we being the champions of civilization—and the reforms decreed by the last Turkish hattischeriff. Contrast Know-nothingism with the appointment to the Turkish Commission of an Armenian and a Jew. Contrast, generally, the enlightenment visible in the Sultan's decree with the enlightenment of our gazetted "Thanksgiving." What in the history of Eastern delusions can surpass the follies of the English people in undergoing varieties of cures—such as the castor-oil poison—for the cholera of 1854? What in the history of Turkish barbarism can exceed the idiocy of the English people in leaving their great civilised towns so peculiarly built, sewered, and inhabited, as to tempt, to create, cholera?

The Thanksgiving for a good harvest ought now to be connected with national gratitude for the subsidence of cholera: there is illogicality in the

Thanksgiving altogether, and it would scarcely strike the pious, were the Pope's comprehensive Jubilee imitated, were we to be called upon to thank Providence for both heat and cold—the cold, as far as the cholera is concerned, being necessary to counteract the baleful effects in towns of the extreme heat. The Positive Philosophy is not yet in the ascendant: and Thanksgivings are likely to last so long as peers, like Lord Derby, do not blush to announce at scientific meetings such as the one this week at Liverpool, that they know nothing of science; or so long, indeed, as a scientific Congress is converted, as was this at Liverpool, into a meeting for vulgar enjoyment (Liverpool is the most provincial town in England) of the sight of "unscientific" peers. We do not remember anything for a long time so degrading to this country as the scene at Liverpool—the business being that of the British Association—when Lord Derby proposed thanks to Lord Harrowby, when Lord Harrowby thanked Lord Derby, and when the public present, great merchants and their wives—vulgar and dull—"cheered."

We find in one or two official papers some official news. We gather, from the guarded *Globe*, that the Perry Case has had its moral effect on the Horse Guards: the organisation of the Courts-Martial is to be modified into some nearer resemblance to a common sense process. From another statement in the same paper, we infer that the Duke of Newcastle has been compelled, probably by the objections of his elder colleagues, who were backed by the odd opposition of some "liberal" papers, to resign his great scheme to revolutionise the civil service. The Duke of Newcastle does not confine his communications to the Government papers; the despatch received by the Government, with respect to the landing in the Crimea, was sent from the office of the Minister of War to all the morning papers. Very proper; but if the Cabinet thus condescends to break through the routine of secret diplomatic reserve, why not give us all the news it gets? And if a purveyor of news, why not have a newspaper? Why not a daily gazette in war time?

The most important of these Government hints to its "organs" is that referring to the rumours that our Government was forced to consent to the expedition against the Crimea. A trusted organ says:—the order for the expedition went direct from the two courts. Yet St. Arnaud may be entitled to the credit of vigour and boldness—and the *Times* should really be asked: "Who is the coward among our generals?"

THE WAR.

THE CRIMEA.—THE LANDING.

The Government has received and published the following notification:—

"Telegraphic accounts have been received by Her Majesty's Government from Vienna and Bucharest announcing that the allied forces, consisting of 25,000 English, 25,000 French, and 8,000 Turkish troops, landed on the 14th at Eupatoria without meeting any resistance, and had commenced marching on Sebastopol."

The debarkation is stated on authority to have been admirably planned. The whole naval armament was to actively assist with its boats and crews in the landing. The boats were to form and receive the men on board on the off shore side of each ship, partly to lie under the shelter of the vessel in case the enemy should open his fire from the shore, and partly to leave each vessel at liberty to open her own fire on the land. This circumstance denotes that it was expected the troops would embark at a short distance from the shore, and that distance was not to exceed 400 yards. The men were to enter the boats with their arms and knapsacks, but the arms not loaded, and the knapsacks not buckled on. They were to have eaten a good meal before starting, and officers as well as men were to carry with them three days' bread and salt meat, besides water, in their canteens. All the boats of the fleet having thus been filled with men, they were to form in three grand divisions—the first consisting of all the launches and pinnaces from the sailing ships of the fleet, in which the Britannia's boats were to occupy the post of honour, on the extreme right of the line; the second division was to consist of the paddlebox boats of the war steamers, towed by their own cutters, and these were to occupy the extreme left; the central, or third division would contain all the boats of the transport service, and would consequently be by far the most numerous. Those three divisions would form one vast continuous line, keeping a distance of twenty feet between the oars of each boat. Upon the signal being given from the Agamemnon, the whole line was to row stoutly and steadily towards the shore, the men in perfect stillness and silence, no boat being allowed to advance before or to fall behind the others. Such a line, from the enormous multitude of boats engaged, must have extended to between two and three miles in length, irrespective of the French forces, which are not referred to in the instructions; the landing must therefore have been intended to take place on a lengthened expanse of the coast. The Light Division of the British army and the artillery, conveyed in six of the British transports, would be the first to land, and four companies of the second battalion of the Rifle Brigade would be attached to each brigade of General Brown's division, and would form the advance. Upon these gallant fellows, therefore, would devolve the glory of first setting foot on the Crimea, and of opening their fire upon the enemy. The larger boats were to be provided with grapnels and small anchors, and the oars were to be slung so as to be dropped over the side on reaching land. Upon landing, each regiment was to form in continuous columns at quarter distance, and the batteries would in every case land with the divisions to which they are attached, as well as the proper detachment of Sappers, with their tools to throw up field intrenchments, if required, with the utmost rapidity. The other divisions of the army were to follow in their order, the boats returning to the ships to take them, but the cavalry would not land until specially ordered to do so. The artillery was to be landed on "flats," as they are termed, consisting of pairs of boats with portable decks fitted to convey guns and horses, which only require to be put together by a party of shipwrights when the time comes for using them; these flats would then be towed in by steamers, and each of them would be attended by two pinnaces from the fleet, and, if possible, a cutter, for the purpose of assisting them, if requisite.

A number of transports returned after the landing for the French reserve of 14,000 men.

Anapa and Kertch have been blockaded by Admiral Lyons since the 4th instant.

THE RUSSIANS IN ASIA.

Last week we published a report of a victory gained by Schamyl at Tiflis, and the retreat of the Russian forces. It appears, however, that no battle was fought; but an advance on Tiflis was made by Schamyl, which was so threatening as to cause the concentration of two Russian corps in Tiflis.

General Guyon has been finally recalled from Kars, and Colonel Williams, of the English artillery, has gone thither to attempt a reorganisation of the army.

Selim Pacha, who lost the battle on the 29th of July, arrived about a week ago at Constantinople in great disgrace. He is a very good Pacha of the old school, and does not deserve punishment so much as those who trusted him with an army. He harangued the passengers in the Trebizonde boat in extenuation of his failure. He said, "The Russians attacked my

army, but it was not my fault, for I was asleep in the village two hours off, and, of course, could not prevent them. I came up with a reinforcement, but could do nothing, for we had forgotten our cartridges. The Russians took all our tents, but they were so rotten that they were of no use, and as for the fifteen pieces of cannon, I will pay for them out of my own pocket." This defence will probably prove satisfactory, if he is sufficiently humble and sufficiently liberal.

THE BALTIC.

The Swedish papers still assert that an important operation will be undertaken in the Baltic before the fleets finally leave.

LORD DUNDONALD AND THE COMMAND OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

A report has been circulated that Lord Aberdeen had offered the command of the Baltic fleet to Lord Dundonald (who is eighty years old). Upon this Lord Dundonald writes to the Times:—

"Until yesterday, when I observed the serious manner in which a conversation said to have taken place between the Chief Minister of Her Majesty's Administration and myself is now treated, I did not consider it incumbent on me to 'volunteer a formal public disclosure,' in order not to allow such a statement to go abroad uncontradicted, and therefore I now rectify the omission, and declare that I have never been honoured by any conversation or communication with or from Lord Aberdeen relative to the command in the Baltic, or in regard to operations to be conducted in that or any other quarter."

"Permit me to add a line in justice to Admiral Napier, against whom 'the indignant dissatisfaction of the nation' is said to be roused—namely, that success could not have attended the operations of combustible ships against stone batteries firing red-hot shot, however coolly unresisting walls may be leisurely demolished."

"There is but one means whereby to place the opponents on an equal footing, and that I have confidentially laid before the Government, with the hope that a protracted defensive war should not linger on, to the disorganisation of Europe and the ruin of our country."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE Emperor of the French is at Bordeaux, where he met the Empress. He was waiting for her on the railway platform. There has been a report of the discovery of an infernal machine concealed under the Northern Railway, for the purpose of blowing up the Emperor on his return from Boulogne. There was a good deal of circumstantiality, but no truth in the story.

The evacuation of Moldavia by the Russians is complete. Prince Gortschakoff has transferred the Government to the Moldavian Minister of the Interior.

It is said that the Persian Minister at Constantinople has denied the truth of the report of a rupture between Persia and the Porte.

Queen Christina has arrived in France.

The King of Denmark has signed the law regulating the constitution of the Danish monarchy as regards the public affairs common to the whole kingdom. But it does not make Denmark a constitutional monarchy, nevertheless.

The King of the Belgians has left Brussels, it is said, on a visit "incognito" to Switzerland and Austria, and perhaps Prussia. The Ministers have withdrawn their resignations.

The committee of the "Union Liberal," of Madrid, has issued an address to the electors, and it is said that it is calculated to secure a very large Liberal majority in the new Cortes, or, rather, Constituent assembly.

There has been a religious row in Shiedam (Holland). The pretext for a riot was the price of bread, and some bakers' windows were broken, but the real cause was the attacks made on the Roman Catholic religion by a converted priest. The Roman Catholics were annoyed, and determined to have a physical fight to settle the religious question. Several persons were killed.

AMERICAN NEWS.

POPULAR disturbances are in the ascendant, and even the Quaker city is not free from them, for during the celebration of the "Turnebend" festival by the Germans there was a fight; the police interfered and took some prisoners. The Germans attacked them. The police, armed with clubs and revolvers (a peculiarity of the Philadelphia force), fired and struck, and a number of persons were wounded.

There has been a celebration of the American Protestant Association at Newark. A procession passing through the streets was pelted, and several shots fired, it is said, from a Roman Catholic Church. The people broke into the building and demolished its interior, and the row became general. Many persons were hurt, but none killed.

Senator Douglas attempted to deliver a pro-slavery speech at Chicago, but was prevented by a mob of abolitionists. Cholera and yellow-fever are raging in the South, particularly at Savannah and New Orleans.

A United States frigate had arrived at San Domingo, and demanded the cession of the port of Savannah and some adjacent territory.

A fire occurred at Belize, Honduras, destroying property to the amount of 100,000.

The news of General Comcha's appointment as Captain-General of Cuba had given great satisfaction in the island, where he was daily expected. Spanish troops continue to arrive.

Greytown, Mosquito, is being fast rebuilt.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science, in its annual migrations, has this year reached Liverpool, and met on Wednesday. The formal business commenced with the meeting of the general committee, who received a report of the Parliamentary committee, stating that their attendance had been devoted to—

"1. Lieutenant Maury's scheme for the improvement of navigation."

"2. The conditions on which pensions are now bestowed on men of science."

"3. A correspondence which they have commenced with various eminent cultivators of science on the question—whether it might be possible to improve the position of science or its cultivators in this country by any measures to be adopted by Government or Parliament."

"4. The proposed juxtaposition of the scientific societies in some central locality in the metropolis."

With regard to the first their efforts have been successful, the Government having arranged a department for the purpose.

As related to the granting of pensions to scientific men, the result had not been so satisfactory, a correspondence with Lord Aberdeen ending in his declaring his inability to alter the manner in which the Parliamentary grant for pensions was arranged. Neither had Sir W. Molesworth held out any positive hope of Government giving a building to scientific societies.

The Earl of Harrowby, the president, delivered the inaugural address, in which he disclaimed the possession of scientific acquirement, but showed that he had, at least, "crammed" well for the occasion. The Earl of Derby followed; and very earnestly and emphatically pronounced his immense ignorance of all science; and having nothing to say, he was generally jocose and profusely complimentary to Lord Harrowby and the society.

A large number of papers have been sent in to be read before the sessions.

THE COURT.

THE Royal Family are enjoying themselves quietly at Balmoral. The Queen drives and walks, and Prince Albert goes out deer-stalking.

"CANARDS" BELGES.

THE *Indépendance Belge* has one or two specimens of intelligence, which are to be taken at their value—from a usually well-informed journal.

It is said that the Emperor and Empress of the French will immediately proceed to Boulogne, with the intention of paying a visit to the Queen at Osborne.

La Mode, a Paris paper of "fashions," we suppose, has been suspended for two months, because it contained a severe attack—of all people in the world—on Lord Palmerston, the prime defender of the Anglo-French alliance.

The Prince of Canino has arrived at Paris, the Emperor having shown an inclination to choose a successor from that branch of his family.

If there is a victory in the East, the name of the place where it is gained will form the title of a Duchy which will be conferred on Marshal St. Arnaud.

MUTILATION BY MACHINERY.

IT appears by the records of the Thames Police Court that the complaints of persons who have lost their limbs, or had their hands torn off by machinery in factories, and have been discharged by their masters without compensation, are very frequent.

Last week, a man named Morris, whose son, a lad of 19, had his arm torn off while attending to the machinery in Smith's brush-manufactory in Osborne-street, Whitechapel, applied for relief, and said he was unable to maintain his son, and that Mr. Smith had dismissed him without making any recompense for the terrible injury sustained by the lad. The poor man also stated that a man who was lagging about the streets had his two hands torn off, and two lads now in the workhouse lost each an arm in the same mill.

Again, on Thursday last—

A young woman, named Elizabeth Price, No. 2, Bether's-roads, Golden-lane, St. Luke's, came before Mr. Justice, with her mutilated relative, Charles Gilchrist, and said he was 19 years of age, and in January last he was in the employ of Mr. Hunt, cocoa-nut fibre-manufactory, Old Ford, Bow. The machinery in Mr. Hunt's factory was impelled by steam power. On the 10th of January the unfortunate lad was fixing a band round a piece of machinery, called a "rigger," which was in a defective state, while it was in motion, and he was drawn into the rigger and mangled in a shocking manner. His left arm was torn from the socket, his right leg fractured in two places, and four of his ribs broken. He was taken to the London Hospital, where he remained under medical treatment until the 4th of August, a period of nearly eight months, when he was discharged. The lad was a cripple for life, and unable to work. The remains of his mutilated arm were removed close to his shoulder. Mr. Hunt had promised to take care of the lad when he left the hospital, but had done nothing whatever for him.

The magistrate regretted that he could only give some temporary relief out of the poor-box to the applicants, as he could not compel the masters to make compensation. He, however, communicated with the inspector of factories on the subject.

RELIGIOUS AMENITIES IN IRELAND.

LAST week we chronicled the case of a riot at New-Limavady, springing out of the animosities which prevail between Protestants and Roman Catholics in Ireland.

Can it be that the atrocity we here detail has its origin in the same fertile source of division?

Looking to the religious and political status of the persons whom it was evidently intended to destroy, there is some cause for fear that it is one of the religious amenities of Ireland.

The Orangemen of Enniskillen made an excursion to Derry last week, headed by the Earl of Enniskillen, Sir R. Bateson, &c. They had a reception on the platform of the railway station at the "maiden city," and a good deal of speech-making and fraternisation with the "prentice boys of Derry," to whom this was a return visit, took place. At the conclusion of the day, about five o'clock, the excursionists repaired to the railway terminus, and took their departure.

Having left Derry, two engines being placed to the train, the journey was accomplished without anything occurring until the train, after passing Dromore, in the county Tyrone, in a lowland named Stranagomer, near the cross-roads leading from Trillick to Lowthecstown, a sudden shock, produced by a slight jumbling of the engine took place, and immediately down went the engines, flying off as it were at right angles. The second engine, on which, along with the engine-man, were Lord Enniskillen and one of the railway officials, Mr. George Younger, ran into the first, jamming his lordship between the engine and first carriage, from which position he was rescued by the joint exertion of seven or eight of the Enniskilleners who had left their carriages when the concussion took place. We are happy to add his lordship was but very slightly bruised, although one of the engine-drivers was killed, and another had a leg broken. This man is not expected to live, we understand. A third man, belonging to the company, is suffering also very much from a dreadfully mangled thigh, off which the flesh was completely torn. At the hour the accident occurred, it was, of course, quite dark, and there were, we have learned, but two lamps available. The cause of the accident was found to be several stones, one of them weighing close upon 3cwt., which had been placed by some fiendish marauders upon the line, and these were preceded by a few smaller ones, evidently designed to throw the engines off the rail before coming to the larger block, in the hope that the latter would then the better turn them down a precipitous steep of about thirty or forty feet in depth, caused by the earth which had been thrown in at this spot to raise the line to a proper level, and at which there is no parapet or projecting wall. As a train had passed along the line about twenty minutes previously, it is manifest the fiendish marauders of this diabolical scheme, which exceeds anything we ever read of in murderous intention, were lying in wait some time to accomplish their purpose, and that the object of their deadly intention was the more numerous freighted train containing the Derry visitors; and so solicitous were they that failure should not attend them, about a mile further on the line was similarly obstructed. Happily at the time of the collision the engines were proceeding rather slowly, to which may be attributed in a great measure the slight nature of the casualties; for had they been going at a rapid rate, and turned off down the embankment bringing the carriages along with them, few could have escaped with their lives. As it was, the scene of confusion is indescribable, and to add to the terror inspired at the moment a rumour was spread that another train would be likely to come up with them. Shortly after the occurrence took place, a crowd of country people assembled, and although we blush for our common humanity when we pen such a sentence, yet the truth should be told, which, as we have been informed by an eye-witness, is most discreditable to the peasantry of that district. Our informant states that hardly one of those who came up would condescend to put a hand to in order to render the slightest assistance; and although one fellow was paid liberally for bringing a little water, and another was paid to bring a door to carry off the poor sufferers, neither of these fellows returned. That such an occurrence should take place in a Christian country, and be characterised with such heartlessness in the hour of need, will scarcely be believed; and God knows, we write it more with a feeling of regret than indignation. Our readers can all better conceive than we could relate the peculiar feelings of between eight and nine hundred individuals thus thrown out into a strange district, in the dark, and at a distance of twelve miles from their homes. The small village of Ballinamallard lay before them on their route, distant about four miles, and thither some of the passengers struggled in groups, as best they could. We understand Lord Enniskillen took up his abode in a peasant's house for the night, and about half-past nine o'clock the next morning Lady Enniskillen passed through the town from Florencecourt to quiet her anxieties by a sight of her large lord. When the news reached Ballinamallard, where a large concourse had assembled in expectation of the return of the usual train, a numerous party set out to render what aid they could, and some jaunting-cars were got ready for the conveyance of the ladies. Many of our fellow-townsmen did not get home till six o'clock on Saturday morning; and all seemed impressed with a due sense of that providential interposition which alone rescued them from one of the most fiendish attempts at wholesale massacre that ever took place in this or any other country professing to be Christian.

There seems to be but one feeling in Ireland on the subject. The *Derry Journal* (Roman Catholic organ) has the subjoined version:—

"We grieve to have to announce that a most diabolical attempt was made last night to upset the train which arrived in Derry yesterday with the Enniskillen excursionists. The train, which contained upwards of 800 persons, started from Derry about a quarter past five, p.m., for the purpose of conveying the excursionists home. It was drawn by two engines, and proceeded in safety until it came within about a mile of Trillick station, and six or seven miles from Enniskillen, when a fearful collision took place by the engine striking against several granite blocks that had, it is supposed, been laid across the rail by some miscreants, for the purpose of causing an accident. So great was the shock that the links connecting the engine to the train were instantly broken, and a stoker of the name of Mitchell was thrown between the engines and literally smashed to death. We regret to say that poor Mitchell has left a large family to mourn his loss. The engine driver's life was saved by his leaping off before the collision took place. There have, however, been several serious injuries sustained. It is generally rumoured that Lord Enniskillen has had a leg broken, but for the truth of this statement we cannot yet vouch. When the news of this horrible outrage became known in Derry, a feeling of the utmost horror and consternation rapidly spread amongst the people, and there were several who were not slow to pronounce it to be the work of some religious fanatics. It was rumoured also that the excursionists were so exasperated by the accident that they immediately proceeded to wreck and burn several of the neighbouring houses belonging to Roman Catholics, whom in the excitement of the moment, they suspected of being implicated in the crime.

"It is worthy of note that no exhibition of party spirit took place during the day, nor was there the slightest inclination on the part of any of the Catholics of Derry to riot or disturbance. It is also to be observed that there were several Catholics in the train amongst the excursionists; so that, from all we at present hear, there is no reason to suppose that party spirit had anything to do with the diabolical outrage. It is hoped, however, that a searching investigation will be made into the whole affair, and that the culprits will be brought to a speedy punishment. We purpose publishing full information as soon as we can obtain the exact particulars. Lord Enniskillen has, with great promptitude, offered 500*l.* for the apprehension of the offenders, and several arrests have, we learn, been already made."

Several "navigators" have been arrested on suspicion. A coroner's inquest has been sitting, to inquire into the death of Mitchell, the stoker, but it has been thought advisable that the inquiry should be private. Another paper says:—

"The place selected for the execution of this nefarious plot plainly demonstrates that a wholesale destruction of human life was expected to result. About a quarter of a mile on the Derry side of Trillick station there is an embankment off the height of upwards of 30 feet, over which, when the train came in contact with the obstructions, both engines were precipitated, the links which connected them with the train being providentially broken. The second engine dashed on the first, and poor Mitchell was crushed to death between them. There is also a viaduct at the embankment, from the parapet of which the stones (one weighing 9cwt.) were moved on to the line."

That the spirit which we above indicated largely exists, take another specimen of sectarian squabbling. The scene is a union workhouse in Dublin. The Rev. Mr. Fleming, the Protestant chaplain, is, as he alleges, molested by the Roman Catholic chaplain in this wise. He says:—

"On the 4th of September, in discharge of my duty, I visited the female hospital, and while there engaged in giving religious instruction to the Protestant patients in the ward, the Roman Catholic chaplain rushed in, and after some time caused considerable disturbance by making a very great noise. He inquired of one of the Roman Catholic patients in the ward—'Are you obliged to listen to that fellow?' and added, 'shut your ears against him;' and again caused considerable annoyance by walking violently to and fro through the ward."

Mr. O'Farrell gives his version thus:—

"The South Union workhouse is now divided into a sectarian establishment—separate schools for Protestant and Catholic children of both sexes—separate sheds—separate work-rooms for the able-bodied paupers of both sexes; separate hospitals for the sick and infirm of both sexes; the shed hospital in the garden, 'erected for unfortunate and erring females,' is the only exception. In this both Catholic and Protestant females are commingled.

"I was informed that the Protestant chaplain, or his substitute, was in the habit of reading aloud, at a table in the middle of this hospital, the Protestant version of the Scriptures, and making copious comments on the same; that the Catholic females felt their feelings outraged, and their religion calumniated by this conduct of the Protestant chaplain.

"As the spiritual guardian of these unfortunate sick females, I felt called on to visit the hospital and see if what I had heard was true; I did so on Monday, the 4th inst., and found the Rev. Robert Fleming seated at the table reading and preaching out of the Protestant Bible to all the sufferers in the hospital. His congregation, 'out of 33 inmates at that date in the hospital,' consisted of two Protestant girls and a wardmistress, a Mrs. Lynch, also a Protestant."

He denies that he made any disturbance. The matter is brought before the Poor-law Commissioners. An inquiry is instituted. The two reverend gentlemen are confronted; there is plenty of recrimination and cross-examining of witnesses, and so on, and earnest requests for a separation of Protestant and Catholic inmates in the workhouse—and the matter stands for decision.

Is all this religion or priestcraft?

THE WINDSOR COURTS-MARTIAL.

THE Duke of Cleveland has been in correspondence with the Mayor of Windsor on the subject of the recent courts-martial, *à propos* of his forwarding a subscription of 50*l.* towards the Perry Defence Fund.

He refers to the evidence before the Courts-martial, and thinks "something more may have transpired than what met the public eye to induce the members of the Court to decide upon the verdict they thought proper to give, which certainly surprised me, not as a civilian, but as an officer of long standing in the army, and I hope I may add of some experience, having served in every regimental rank, from a cornet of Dragoons to that of Lieutenant-Colonel commanding an Infantry Regiment, the 75th Foot, in which latter capacity I served for two years. I have always studied to the best of my ability the duty of a regimental officer, in every progressive rank, and of this I speak with great confidence, that the conduct of officers in each rank, as well as the discipline of the regiment, must depend upon the actual diligence and supervision of the commanding officer. If, therefore, youths in the lower ranks of regiments are allowed to practise every sort of riot, drunkenness, and debauchery, and no notice taken of it by their commander, are they to be made the victims, and he to be let off Scot free, when by his own culpable negligence he has been the sole cause of it? For such is the case with Colonel Garrett. Was there ever such a disgraceful state of any British regiment brought to light as that of the 46th in the late proceedings at Windsor? What, therefore, does surprise me is this, that they, the Court, should make no report as to the conduct of Colonel Garrett. Is it, I will ask, the opinion of any man, civil or military, that such an officer should continue in command of a regiment, which he has publicly disgraced? And yet I have never heard of his being ordered to quit the regiment, or of his being allowed to retire from the service by the sale of his commission."

It is stated that an action for false imprisonment has been brought against Major Maxwell and Lieut. M'Alister by the friends of the boy Simms, whom they took into custody. The matter is, however, open to "arrangement."

The action by Simms against Major Maxwell and Lieutenant M'Alister has been brought in the County Court, and damages laid at 25*l.*

Twelve peers have subscribed to the Perry Defence Fund. Only three members of the House of Commons have subscribed, viz.—Mr. D. Seymour, Mr. Ouseley Higgins, and Mr. Gore Langton.

ROMANCE OF THE OLD BAILEY.

A TRIAL had just concluded at the Central Criminal Court, on Monday, when an elderly person, of most respectable appearance, who had been sitting on the seat under the judges' bench, deliberately got up and walked to the counsels' table, and, placing himself close to Mr. Giffard, who was the first gentleman on the seat, he said, in an earnest and solemn tone, "Do you remember Carliff?" and at the same instant placed the muzzle of a pistol close to his cheek, and pulled the trigger. The weapon exploded with a slight report, and from what was afterwards discovered, it appeared that the bullet which it had contained had dropped from the barrel. The powder being thus scattered, the fatal intention was frustrated, and the effect of the discharge was merely to occasion a slight injury to the cheek of the learned gentleman who had been made the subject of so deadly an attack. He was seized, and ordered to be searched, when he, with great coolness, exclaimed, "Yes, I have another pistol," and added, "it is loaded;" at the same time taking a pistol from his breast pocket, and handing it to the officers; and upon its being examined it was found to be loaded with a ball. The escape of Mr. Giffard was most miraculous, for if this second weapon had been used instead of the other, some deadly injury, if not loss of life, must necessarily have been the consequence. When he had recovered himself sufficiently, he looked at his assailant, and was astonished to find that he was an utter stranger.

The prisoner, who exhibited the utmost composure, but whose appearance gave strong manifestations of insanity, was then removed to the sheriff's parlour, and Mr. Alderman Finnis and Sir John Musgrave at once proceeded there to take the necessary depositions.

The prisoner gave his name Hugh Pollard Willoughby, and said that he was the brother of Sir Henry Willoughby, and that he was a clergyman, and resided at Oxford. Upon his being searched, a gold watch and chain, five pounds in gold, twelve shillings in silver, and four keys were found upon him.

He was sufficiently collected to require and obtain the professional assistance of Mr. Clarkson, whom he named. After a preliminary examination, the further proceedings in the matter were postponed for a week.



DEAR BREAD!

THE crusade against the bakers goes on. They yield only to pressure; but that continues to be applied:—

"In Somersetshire, it appears, that, notwithstanding the recent agitation, the price of bread at Bridgwater is considerably higher than in any other town in the county. So great, indeed, has been the pressure of the bakers' monopoly on the labouring classes, that the sanitary board in the borough of Bridgwater have felt it within their province to inquire into the matter; and the result has brought to light the existence of a combination among the bakers and millers, which, by the statute 2nd and 3rd of Edward VI., is declared illegal, and subjected to certain penalties. The Bridgwater bakers, it appears, have entered into a compact not to undersell each other, and a forfeit of 5*l.* is the penalty agreed to among themselves for any breach of the combination rules! At Bath the 4*lb.* loaf has been reduced to 5*d.*, while at Wells, the same as in Bridgwater, the price is 7*d.* for 'seconds,' and 7*d.* for fine!"

There has been a partial abatement of price in Devonshire:—

"The contracts for bread for the various unions just entered into show a great diminution over the last quarter, but generally speaking the public have not yet participated in the downward currencies of the corn trade. In the Totnes district the average price of the 4*lb.* loaf for the 30 parishes in the union, for the quarter ending Michaelmas, is 7*d.*; and for the ensuing quarter, from Michaelmas to Christmas, the contract price is 5*d.* Flour also shows a similar reduction in price in the same period—viz., from 5*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 7*d.* per sack. At Plymouth and Devonport, last week, the bakers reduced the price of bread from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* the 8*lb.* loaf; but the public are yet anxious for a further instalment of their rights, and it is thought the bakers must yield. The citizens of Exeter are now charged 6*d.* and 7*d.* per 4*lb.* loaf, but this rate can hardly be maintained in the face of an organised opposition. A public meeting was held a few days ago, when it was resolved to form a bread company for Exeter and the South of Devon, and communications were made from similar societies established elsewhere. The working classes appear determined to have the power in their own hands to assimilate the price of bread and flour with the price of wheat, and a number of friendly societies have promised to subscribe the necessary funds to commence the undertaking. To prevent a recurrence of what is termed 'rigging the market' by a few of the wealthy millers, the town council have issued notices that they intend in future to authorise the opening of the Exeter corn-market at eleven o'clock on Fridays, and that it will be closed two hours earlier than heretofore."

A Bristol paper says:—

"The bakers of Bristol have lowered the quarter loaf another halfpenny last week; this makes a reduction of one penny since the great fall in the price of wheat, but we believe the public are entitled to demand one halfpenny more off, three-halfpence on the quarter being the proportion to the fall in the price of the wheat per quarter. We suppose, however, we are to be thankful for what we have got already, until such time as the bakers condescend to let us have the benefit, the whole benefit, and nothing but the benefit, of the bounteous harvest with which we have been blessed."

There is a popular demonstration for cheap bread in Dorsetshire:—

"The walls were placarded, and the bakers and millers denounced as vile monopolists, and movements made for establishing bread consumers' societies, before the purveyors would give way. A bakers' and millers' society has existed in Sherborne many years, and at their weekly meetings the rise and fall of prices are deliberated on and decided. It is the practice for the bakers to adopt one price, the millers, on the other hand, bind themselves not to supply flour to any baker who does not belong to the local club, and by these means competition is evaded. A baker from a distance recently began selling bread at a low remunerating profit, and the society, backed by the millers, tried to ruin him by selling their commodities below the actual cost; this ultimately brought the new comer into connexion with the society, and the rule of monopoly was maintained! A few weeks since, however, another cheap bread-shop was opened, and this circumstance at once brought down the price of bread in Sherborne from 8*d.* and 9*d.* per loaf to 7*d.* and 6*d.* The cheap bread sellers now offer bread at 6*d.* per 4*lb.* loaf, weighed on delivery."

In connection with this question arises that of the wages of agricultural labourers.

It has been predicted that one of the consequences of the abundant harvest will be a cry next winter of "agricultural distress."

The farmers are preparing against the evil day, by the simple process of cutting off a shilling or two per week from the wages of their labourers.

A Berkshire paper states:—

"That in consequence of the great fall in the price of wheat most of the agriculturists are reducing their labourers' wages. In many instances the reduction will commence immediately, and in this neighbourhood it will be to the extent of 2*s.* per week—viz., from 11*s.* to 9*s.*"

FRANCE UNDER THE EMPIRE.

THERE has been an Imperial manifesto on the state of things in France. The object is to show what advantages have been derived from the Government of Louis Napoleon, the English alliance among them. The *Moniteur* speaks:—

"France is now enjoying the fruits of the honourable and firm policy inaugurated by the Emperor. In spite of famine, epidemic, and war, the national activity has not been diminished and the public credit has not been shaken. Thanks to the wise resolution of the Government, so well seconded by the courage and confidence of the country, three of the

most formidable scourges which can afflict a nation have been reduced, with the exception of losses to be for ever regretted, to the limits of passing difficulties. The epidemic is being extinguished; the famine has been succeeded by an abundant harvest; the war, commenced under happy auspices, inspires no more alarm than the ambition which created it. Within a short time the nations, faithful to their appointment, will re-assemble at Paris to take part in the pacific struggles between industry and the arts."

"What an immense change has taken place in opinion as well as in position! At the same time that France resumed in Europe the eminent rank which belonged to her, she witnessed the disappearance of that distrust of which the recollection of the past rendered her the object. That nation, against which every other country thought it had the right to cherish jealousy, has become by an unexpected change the most solid support of European order. It is no longer towards the north that weak or menaced States turn their attention; and, what is still more astonishing, the fears which France inspired have ceased by the accession of him whose glorious name seemed calculated to awaken them. What has just taken place at Boulogne forms an indication more expressive than any words. To that shore, whence Napoleon fifty years ago menaced England, and whence he rushed to the conquest of Germany, have come the Prince, the husband of the Queen of England, generals from all the States of Germany, and also the King of the Belgians, and the King of Portugal, to visit the heir of Napoleon. They were present as allies, as friends, at the manoeuvres of an army which by its discipline and its bravery, still more than by the spot where it was encamped, recalled to recollection the Grand Army of the first empire."

"The fact is, that every one is now aware that those valiant soldiers only threaten the enemy of the peace of the world; that the memorable words at Bordeaux, which at first appeared irreconcilable with the reality, have become an incontestable truth to all; that no one doubts that, with the causes of division which still exist in Europe, with the weakness of certain States and the hesitation of others, if France had not been satisfied with the re-establishment of its national Government, if her strength had not been concentrated in a firm and skilful hand, the question now to be decided in the East would have become the signal for one universal conflagration. It is because every one is convinced that a prompt and energetic war was the only way to re-establish peace upon a solid basis; and, in short, that this war, entered upon not in the spirit of conquest, but made imperative for the honour and safety of all, was only undertaken after Europe, represented by a sort of grand jury, had pronounced with unanimity against the guilty aggressor a sentence which it would have been dishonourable not to execute. France and England could not shrink before that consequence. United in action as they had been in opinion, the two great maritime Powers share the glory of the vigorous resolution which forms the security of the present and the guarantee of the future."

"Assuredly, the relations of good neighbourhood between England and France do not date from yesterday. Long years of tranquillity, the progress of enlightened views, and more frequent relations between the two people, had weakened national antipathies; but this happy change was more rapidly effected among the superior classes than in the mass of the people, and there was a long step from such a state of things to the fraternal relations which now so closely unite the two nations."

"The transport of our troops to the Baltic in the English fleet, and the enthusiasm which the visit of the Emperor on the occasion excited, had already proved to Europe the intimacy of our alliance. The visit of Prince Albert to the camp of Boulogne, and the cordial reception he experienced from our population and our soldiers, formed, as it were, a final and solemn consecration of that alliance. The records of history added still more to the significance of this great event. Upon those very localities which had been the scene of our former struggles the union of the two people seems to have been effected by a closer tie, and the forgetfulness of the past was rendered more complete."

"We must do the English Government the justice of saying that it spared nothing to hasten such a desirable union. From the first announcement of the re-establishment of the Empire, when others were undecided as to the course they should adopt, England did not hesitate. On his part, the Emperor, made wise by history, and faithful to the idea of his uncle, who so eloquently deplored the evils which England and France had created by their divisions, while their union would have been so profitable to their interests and to the cause of humanity, was desirous to free the second half of the century from the calamities which had desolated the commencement of it."

"Thanks to the good faith which has characterised the relations between the two States, the policy which wisdom dictated to them has triumphed, without either having sacrificed its interests, its independence, or its dignity. Old antipathies have suddenly given place to reciprocal friendship and esteem. The attacks of public journals have been turned into united gratitude and admiration. The alliance formed not only between the Governments, but between the people, is now cemented by the blood which their soldiers and sailors shed together for the triumph of the most noble cause."

"The causes which led to the adoption of this alliance guarantee the duration of it, and the results which it has already produced indicate with sufficient clearness the consequences which may be expected from it."

FRENCH JOURNALISM.

SOME little time ago the *Constitutionnel* received a warning from the French government on account of a particular article which appeared in it.

The editor, Viscount de la Guernonière, shortly afterwards published a letter repudiating the responsibility of the article in question, and suggesting that it would not have appeared but for his having been in the country at the time.

Great indignation was felt in newspaper circles at this recent act, and the *Sicéle* did not spare the sinning editor.

It is now announced that M. de la Guernonière has been, in consequence of his conduct, dismissed from the editorship of the *Constitutionnel*. It is said that this act is universally applauded among the press people as one of proper spirit on the part of the proprietors.

"By way of consolation to M. de la Guernonière for his dismissal from the editorial chair, government has conferred upon him the office of Councillor of State. *C'est un peu comme un autre.* M. Cucheval Clary is the new editor of the *Constitutionnel*, but it is understood that he has only accepted the appointment upon condition that a certain eminent theatrical critic shall no longer be connected with the journal, unless he can satisfactorily refute some very notorious charges, of ancient as well as recent date, affecting his professional character. Unless the gentleman in question be very much maligned, he has long been in the habit of exacting fees from the authors and actors whose writings or performances he criticises. Indeed it is said that in private he 'owns and justifies' the charge, using an argument analogous to the celebrated one advanced by Lord Bacon when convicted of taking bribes—that he had will 'justice,' it was true, but never 'injustice!' So this critic protests that he would scorn to take money for an opinion against his conscience, but that he sees no harm in receiving a gratuity for taking the trouble to give a conscientious opinion. M. Cucheval Clary distinctly refuses to be a party to the recognition of this principle as applied to the duties of a writer for the public press."

"The *Union* says that M. de la Guernonière is appointed political director of the *Moniteur*. There are rumours to this effect, but it has not been ascertained whether the appointment has been actually made."

THE AUSTRIAN TROOPS AT BUCHAREST.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Daily News* at Bucharest gives an amusing account of the "personnel" of the Austrian troops on their entry into the town. He says:—

"When the Austrians were said to be two leagues from the town, I rode out, in company with a Sardinian officer, to have a look at them on the march. We proceeded ten miles under a hot sun before we saw any traces of them; but at last caught sight of a picket of cavalry hussars, resting themselves in a small grove close to a village, the horses fastened to the trees, and the men engaged in knocking down pears from the branches with stones. Notwithstanding they had been two months on march, both one and the other looked remarkably well. A few yards further on we met the officer, a fine tall strapping fellow, brilliant and neat as if he had just issued from a bandbox, but evidently by no means inclined to underrate his own importance. The Austrian flag was waving over one or two houses in the village, and half a mile in advance we came upon a battalion in a field by the road side, where they had been resting themselves, and were just putting on their knapsacks, for the purpose of resuming their march. They were all Hungarians, and were the tight-fitting pataloons which form part of their national dress, and were making a great uproar in good, strong, guttural, jaw-breaking, unmistakable Magyar. Soldiers were leading officers' horses about, and doctors were walking up and down in cocked hats and blue coats, looking as much as possible. I was unwilling to approach to near or remain too long, lest I should either be insulted, or arrested as a spy, according to a long-established custom amongst the Austrians, for, like the Irish boy, 'God help 'em, they're afraid of ivy body.' It is always dangerous for a civilian, or any one classed as a civilian, to approach an Austrian officer; the chances are ten to one he falls foul of him, and conducts him before his general, who makes a few polite inquiries as to his private and personal affairs, the object of his journey, and the manner in which he gets his living, which an Englishman is always loth to answer. We accordingly 'moved on,' passed another battalion a little higher up the hill, a band with a dog drawing a little drum in a neat black cart, and toiling right willingly at his task, notwithstanding the great heat. The large drums of all the Austrian bands are conveyed in this manner—placed endways in the cart; the drummer walks behind, and taps away. The dogs receive regular rations, besides odd morsels bestowed on them by the men, are in capital condition, and I have no doubt lead a happy, and I think I may add, a useful life. A Wallachian peasant, who was acting as our guide, was so tickled by this spectacle that he screamed about in convulsions. The two hands on his ribs, and rolled about extremely ill-timed, if musicians seemed to think his mirth extremely ill-timed, if one might judge by their surly looks, and I was at one moment afraid they were going to lay violent hands on him. At other points we saw two battalions more, one battery of artillery, but no cavalry. The road all the way into Bucharest was covered with carts containing the baggage and stores, and the sick, of whom, however, there were not a great number; but the few that were to be seen must have been suffering dreadfully from the heat and dust. No precaution seemed to have been taken for their protection from either. My object in going out so far was to see them in their working trim, knowing well that they would brush themselves up on the day of their entry into Bucharest, and that one could consequently not form on that occasion a correct idea of their appearance and equipment. I must say that the result of the hasty inspection far surpassed my expectations. Everything on and about the soldiers was clean and neat, as if they were just issuing from garrison instead of being at the close of a two months' march. Their white coats were stainless, their shakos apparently not in the least of the wear, their arms, belts, and accoutrements brilliant as on a field-day at Vienna, the artillery horses were fresh-looking and sleek, and the baggage-waggons and harness in perfect order."

THE NEW BEER ACT.

Cases of peccant publicans come before the magistrates every now and then. The vexed question is still "who is a traveller?"

At Highgate, the keeper of the "Spaniards," at Hampstead, was charged with having sent a pot of beer to a person on the heath during the prohibited hours, and for having twenty or thirty persons in his garden. The latter were allowed to be "travellers," but in the case of the pot of beer, as it was sent to the servant of a gentleman who was at the inn, but who had only come three-quarters of a mile from Hampstead, the magistrates felt themselves bound to convict; but expressing an opinion that the act operated hardly on the public and the licensed victuallers, they inflicted a penalty of 1s. and 2s. costs.

"Two Scotch brothers," says the *Daily News*, "met in London, one on his way home from the Continent, the other going to India. They had only one day to be together, but that was Sunday; and being at different hotels, one was obliged to be the guest of the other. They were found by the police with wine before them after ten o'clock. The innkeeper was summoned, and convicted for 'serving' the visitor, but escaped as regarded his inmate." If the resident lodger only had drunk, the landlord would not have been fined at all; but the visitor's partaking was fatal.

OPENING OF THE STATES-GENERAL OF HOLLAND.

The States-General of Holland were opened at the Hague on Monday by the King, with the usual speech. It stated the continuance of friendship with all foreign powers, notwithstanding the political position of Europe; the satisfactory state of the colonies, and the promise of an abundant harvest. Referring to material improvements,—

"We continue to improve the state of our rivers, and we are also actively engaged with the amelioration of all water ways of importance.

"During the past year the Netherlands have been brought into communication at two different points with the railroads of the neighbouring states, and there is every reason to hope that a third junction will soon be made.

"I pay particular attention to the development of this means of communication, which is so necessary to the trade and industry of the country.

"Active measures are being taken for the augmentation of the telegraphic lines in the interior. Three lines will be placed in communication with those of foreign states.

"Notwithstanding the impediments caused by the present war to our commercial relations, our trade, navigation, and naval organisation remain in as prosperous a condition as present unfavourable circumstances will permit. The financial position of the country continues to be satisfactory."

But still the burthens of the country and the national debt would undergo revision.

"Surrounded by the material prosperity which our native country doubtless possesses, the public instruction, arts, and sciences should not be lost sight of. I continue to give this subject my most earnest solicitude."

Although the position of the country was not entirely satisfactory, on the whole the state of affairs was encouraging.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

At the close of last Session Lord Clarendon made a beautiful declaration that the efforts of the late Captain General of Cuba (Pezuela) to suppress the Slave Trade had been most successful. The latest accounts do not bear out the statement. A Correspondent of the *Times* states:—

"Since my last advice, there has been no cessation in the introduction of negroes on the south side. The more restriction is attempted, the greater seems to be the increase of the evil. The melancholy fact is that Pezuela, allowing him to be honest, finds the enforcement of his measures impossible, through the want of faithful agents. There is no doubt that parties in confidential trust near his person have been largely benefited by their influence in the suppression of efforts, and by advice premonitory of their issue, to those who are engaged in African speculation, whereby many negroes have escaped detection. The number of slaves introduced since the arrival of Pezuela, swells to nearly 20,000 while it is stated that my late calculation as to those who have been deported by capture for apprentice labour is too large; that the reported seizures have not counted in conformity with the original reports. They seem to get away from custody, starve to death, or die of disease with great facility and in considerable numbers. I am advised by a very intelligent person from the vicinity of Trinidad, that the arrivals of slave cargoes discharged without discovery average very nearly two every week, and also that Trinidad and the small villages in the vicinity are full of negroes, called 'ladinos' (old importation), but which are in fact boys, or new arrivals, and for the most part held in second hands on speculation. The last week a large slave ship was sent on the south side of Cuba, near the 'Isle of Pines,' and six or seven hundred negroes found their freedom only under the kindly mercy of the waves, which covered them for ever from the pursuit of man. All on board of the vessel perished save seven Africans, one seaman, and the captain, who escaped drowning as he will probably also escape hanging, notwithstanding his many acts of piracy."

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

The Revision of the Lists of Voters in Middlesex and the City of London have been held.

In the City of London matters have gone quietly, there being very few claims or objections.

In Middlesex, the Conservative Land Society established seventy-one claims to vote, in respect of plots of land held by the Society's shareholders. Among the claimants objected were Lord Maidstone, son of the Earl of Winchelsea, the Hon. H. C. Lowther, M.P., Sir C. W. Codrington, M.P., the Hon. R. T. Rowley, M.P., P. Rolt, Esq., M.P., Sir S. Bignold, Kt., Mayor of Norwich, W. Forbes, Esq., M.P., E. H. Vansittart, Esq., M.P., Colonel North, M.P., Colonel Abdy, the Rev. Mr. Cooper, Iminet Laurie, Esq., Captain Meyrick, and Benedict, the musical composer.

A person claiming under the National Freehold Land Society, was disallowed on the ground that he having sold a moiety of his allotment, and let the other for 2l. 10s., had not shown that there was sufficient value previous to 31st July last.

A claim was made in right of a rent-charge granted by the Anti-Corn Law-League upon certain freehold cottages. It was objected to on the ground that the fee-simple being charged with a number of rent-charges, it came within the provisions against splitting interest in lease for the purpose of creating votes. The rent-charge had not been paid for four years. The claim was disallowed, and the decision had the effect of striking off thirty-four similar claims.

The Liberal cause, which had been previously successful in Middlesex, was seriously injured by this one day's revision.

IS THIS A MINISTERIAL POLICY?

The *Times* of Thursday has two articles of much significance.

The first reviews the course pursued by Austria on the Eastern question, and shows them to be most anomalous and unsatisfactory; and it concludes thus:

"An offensive and defensive treaty between Austria, France, and England, which was on the point of signature when the Russians announced that the Principality should at once be evacuated, was the best of the successive and consistent steps of Count Buol's policy. These were accompanied by enormous military and financial preparations for war. Every preliminary measure had been deliberately and gradually taken; nothing remained to be done but to give effect to the last resolutions of this long-suffering and much-enduring policy. Russia declared that the terms which Austria made the *sine qua non* of peace were utterly inadmissible, and could give rise to no further discussion, but that the basis and future negotiations must be settled by the fortune of war. And it was at this extreme point that the Emperor Francis Joseph and his Ministers discovered that, after all, they had no *casus belli* against the author of these calamities, whose encroachments they had repelled, and whose ascendancy in the Black Sea and on the Danube they had declared to be inconsistent with the independence of Turkey and the balance of power! Such a decision at such a moment did undoubtedly occasion great surprise to those who were acquainted with the extent of Austria's preparations and the language of her assurances; and, although it can produce no effect upon the great expedition in which the allied Powers are now engaged, it gives them the right to require of Austria, at a suitable and not distant time, a more precise and positive explanation of her definite intentions, for her present course of policy is calculated only to prolong and extend the evils of war, and to embroil her with those very States whose cause she had thus far adopted."

The other article is strongly condemnatory of the inaction in the Baltic this year, and it winds up by saying:—

"In any case, we trust that from the present time the naval departments of England and France will proceed unremittently to consider and prepare for more regular operations in the Baltic than those of the past season. At Sebastopol we may destroy the influence of Russia over the East; but, unless that blow should reduce the Emperor Nicholas to ask for terms, it is only by opening the road to St. Petersburg that we can reckon on dictating a secure and honourable peace. Cronstadt once taken and destroyed, the capital of the northern empire is for the future without defence against the maritime Powers, and the fear of such a catastrophe is more likely than any other means to secure our triumph."

MR. DISRAELI AND THE IRISH PROTESTANTS.

Mr. DISRAELI is offered a new "situation."

The Protestant cause in Ireland, it seems, is in want of a recognised "leader," and the Dublin Protestant Association fixed on the member for Bucks to supply the vacancy. Liverpool followed in offering to place its Protestant Parliamentary interests in his hands, and now the Protestant county of Down has joined its voice to the others in supplicating Mr. Disraeli to join Mr. Spooner in fighting the battle of the great Protestant question next year. Very strong resolutions have been passed at a meeting of the Down Protestant Association, imploring both these gentlemen to postpone all other political questions to this.

AUSTRALIA—THE GOLD HARVEST.

THERE seems to be little if any falling off in the quantity of gold in the Victoria district, the supply from new fields balancing any decrease in the old locations.

The last accounts of the gold-receipts are these:—

	1853.	1854.
April	170,427 oz.	182,807 oz.
May	116,812	143,618
June	122,000	128,078
	409,234 oz.	454,503 oz.
		400,934

Increase on second quarter, 1854..... 41,569 oz.

The addition to the population of the district was 912 in the last week, of which these are accounts, and 26,526 in the current year.

Wages run thus:—

Labourers' wages 12s. to 13s., on the road; carpenters, 25s. to 27s.; masons, 25s. to 30s. per diem; seamen, 45s. for the run home; Calcutta and Calao, 35s.; on the coast, 9s. per month.

INDIAN NEWS.

THE correspondence from India to 11th August has been received.

The state of affairs in Burmah was quiescent—so much so, that efforts were being made to establish the electric telegraph in Pegu. It is to be carried from Rangoon to Calcutta.

The Persians were said to be strengthening themselves at Meru, and the Russians continued to negotiate with the Herat chief, who is getting up a quarrel with the Cavellhaber chiefs.

The only approach to vivacity in public matters in the Punjab is the continuance of disputes among the Afreedes in the Kholat Pass. The disputes stop their trade.

At the last meeting of the Paris Exhibitors at Lahore, the display of local manufactures was said to be very creditable, and a large collection will be sent down to Bombay to be forwarded to Europe. Many merchants in the Punjab have signified their intention of forwarding goods to the exposition on their own account. Large quantities of English iron have reached Atok for the suspension bridge to be thrown across the Indus. Mr. Colvin, it is stated, has sent in a proposition for constituting Naimee Tal the virtual capital of the north-west provinces, that is for making it the seat of government, and for building a suitable residence for the Lieutenant-Governor, with accommodation for the public offices.

There is some apprehension of famine in the Nizam's dominions.

The Madras Government has taken up the subject of improvement in native agriculture, and propose to offer prizes for proficiency.

It is stated that Lord Dalhousie will remain in India until 1856.

Sir Laurence Peel, Chief Justice of Bengal, is about to resign his office this year from ill health.

SEBASTAPOL TO BE TAKEN BY CONTRACT.

At a recent dinner at the Crystal Palace Sir Joseph Paxton stated that he heard a conversation between two of the members of Fox and Henderson's staff, in which, after referring to what had been done at the Crystal Palace, one of the interlocutors asked what would be the next great work. The answer was, "Suppose we contract with the Government to take Sebastopol or Cronstadt."

The *Daily News*, commenting on this, says—

"There is nothing laughable in it. We believe in all earnestness that were George Stephenson alive now, he would not hesitate to sign a *bond fide* contract with Powers like France or England to take any fortress or line of fortresses in the whole world. What are any or all of the great military engineering achievements in the whole of Europe compared with the covering of England with a reticulation of railways? Did any twelve thousand troops, under the command of the most skilful officer, ever accomplish as much as six thousand 'navvies' under the command of a Stephenson, or a Dargan, or a Peto? What a trifle is Napoleon's road over the Simplon compared with the 'engineering difficulties' conquered by plain working men in half the districts of civilised Europe!"

EARLY CLOSING.

THE movement in favour of closing shops at an earlier evening hour goes on.

On Tuesday there was a meeting at Lambeth of persons connected with the drapery trade. Resolutions were passed, and a committee appointed to carry out a seven o'clock closing.

The chemists and druggists are taking up the question. Several of the trade are doing their best to shorten the hours of labour for their assistants, a class to whom relaxation, in many cases, is almost unknown. Mr. Cooper, of Oxford-street, has issued a circular, stating that he shall suspend business at nine o'clock after the 1st of October, and asking the co-operation of his customers.

ELECTIONS.
KING'S LYNN.

THE vacancy in the representation of this borough, caused by the death of Lord Jocelyn, has been filled up by the unopposed election of Mr. J. H. Gurney, of Colton Hall, Norwich, a local magnate. Mr. Gurney's politics are, as a whole, ministerial. In returning thanks at his election, Mr. Gurney simply referred to his former speeches for his political opinions. They are contained in one of his speeches, of which the following is a résumé. He stated that

"His previous political course had been very much a blank. He had proposed Mr. Peto at the last election for Norwich, but solely upon commercial grounds, considering him one of those men whose commercial knowledge, standing, and character, are so valuable that they ought to be in Parliament whatever their politics may be. Not anxious for the war at first, he considered it the duty of Parliament to give to the war the first and fullest attention, and, therefore, instead of a continuance of tax-repelling legislation, an increase of taxation must be expected. He could conceive few greater evils to the country than a sudden and entire change of ministry during the war, and therefore thought it necessary for Government to abstain from introducing important measures which, if defeated, would render resignation necessary; but if a measure of parliamentary reform were brought in, it must be dealt with. With regard to constituencies, it was his opinion that difference in size constituted a very important element of advantage and safety to this country; but, on the other hand, he thought it highly desirable that the aggregate number of members returned by each county should in the gross bear a fair numerical proportion to population. About a reduction of the franchise, he was not very hot, having little faith of its doing the good anticipated by some, and little fear of the harm prognosticated by others; but he would not oppose a reduction of from 104 to 54, if brought forward by proper men, under proper circumstances, and at a proper time, and extended to counties as well as boroughs, seeing that agricultural constituencies are the main strongholds of Conservative opinion, and that when more sail is hoisted, it is only right to take more ballast on board. To the ballot he was opposed, considering it as a machinery for enabling a man to say one thing and do another. If, however, popular feeling should prove to be overwhelming in its favour, he would give way with the best grace possible, although, to speak plainly, he should not like it. He was entirely opposed to the abolition of the property qualification. He had some faith in the old Norfolk proverb—'An empty sack don't stand upright,' and did not wish to increase the number of empty sacks in the House of Commons. As an elector, he did not wish to see Jew, Turk, or infidel in the House of Commons, but, as an elector, he held it his right to vote for Jew, Turk, or infidel if he pleased to do so, and that it was his constitutional right to prevent him. With regard to church and state, he believed it the duty of the state to provide religious services for those who, of their own free will, liked to avail themselves of them. He upheld church rates as just in theory, but admitted the present mode of collection to be highly unsatisfactory, still he would not vote for their abolition until he saw a good and safe substitute, which might perhaps be found in a better and more economical administration of existing church property. He was exceedingly jealous of any further legislation upon the subject of education, and asserted the full right of dissenters to enter the universities. He was opposed to the Maynooth grant as the most anomalous and unreasonable excrement appended to the British constitution; state salaries should be reserved for state servants, and the Roman Catholic priest was not the servant of the state but of the Pope."

LORD DUNCAN IN FORFARSHIRE.

A meeting was held last week at Dundee, at which Viscount Duncan, who is a candidate to fill the vacancy in the representation of the county of Forfar attended. Lord Duncan addressed the assembly. He supported the war, and eulogised some of the measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; he should generally, but not blindly, support the present Government; all sound reforms would have his voice and vote.

His canvass appears to be successful.

ABDUCTION IN SCOTLAND.

THERE is still such a thing as Lochinvarism, or abduction, even in Scotland, but it takes the curious turn of the kidnapping a bridegroom by his brother.

It will be remembered, says the *Stirling Journal*, that about nine or ten months ago considerable excitement was created in the Bridge of Allan by the report that a bridegroom had been abducted on his marriage-day. The story went—that a poor, but of course eminently handsome, work-girl, of about thirty years of age, had fascinated her employer, who was considerably her senior, but as in other cases, "the course of true love never did run smooth." After the marriage-day had been fixed, the bridegroom was nowhere to be found. Search was made, and messengers sent in every direction, but for a time without success. It now turns out that the elder, and only brother of the bridegroom had, previous to his going missing, lodged a notarial protest with the session-clerk of the parish, interdicting his issuing the usual certificates of proclamation, on the ground that his brother, the bridegroom, was in "an infirm and facile state of mind, and to such an extent as to affect his reason and judgment, whereby he is rendered unable to look after his affairs, and is liable to be imposed upon by designing parties; and further, is not in a fit condition of mind to enter into the state of marriage."

The bridegroom was, it seems, confined under legal process, but avoided it, got married, and brought an action for damages against his brother, which will shortly come before the Scottish tribunals.

THE EARL OF DERBY AT DONCASTER.

THERE were doings at Doncaster races last week which the turfites did not seem to think at all "chivalrous." The Earl of Derby had three horses entered for the St. Leger, one of which—"Acrobat"—stood high in the betting. In the race the horse did nothing particular, and at the close was "nowhere." When the Doncaster Stakes were run for, this same horse beat very easily the horses which came in second and fourth for the St. Leger. Upon this, the belief that the thing was a "cross"

"Gave rise to a scene of the greatest uproar and confusion. John Scott, amidst a storm of groans and hisses, was hustled in every direction, and his party had to fight their way through the crowd to rescue him from the Lynch law with which his exasperated assailants threatened him. Great praise is due to Harry Broome for the protection which he promptly and effectually afforded him. Whether Acrobat could have won the St. Leger or not is a problem we are not prepared to solve; an explanation will now, doubtless, proceed from the proper quarter. Fortunately, Lord Derby had left the course before the disgraceful scene took place."

Another account states:—

"The excitement and confusion which certain proceedings occasioned to-day will be ever talked about in connexion with the Doncaster meeting of 1854. In the whole course of our long experience of sporting men and sporting 'doings' we never witnessed a scene similar to that which was enacted on this the last day of the meeting. Out of Acrobat's success for the Doncaster Stakes grew a riot which has no parallel in the history of the turf. The style in which this horse defeated Ivan and Scythian seemed to convince the spectators that his performance for the St. Leger was a delusion and a sham. John Scott was hooted and groaned at with increasing fury, until his assailants lashed themselves into a frenzy of indignation, and proceeded to acts of personal violence. Templeman made a timely escape, but John Scott was surrounded and hemmed in by a crowd of yelling and enraged men, 'the ringleaders' of whom being evidently Yorkshiremen. His clothes were almost stripped from his back, and when rescued from the hands of the 'rioters' his plight was miserable in the extreme. Fright had evidently rendered him powerless, and but for the rallying of his friends, who struggled violently to keep off his assailants, the consequences to him might have been very serious. Harry Broome took up the cudgels valiantly in his behalf, and made such good use of his fists, that John Scott was at length, but with much difficulty, lodged in safety in the saloon of the stand. Just prior to this row, Lord Derby had quitted the course, but his name was shouted in anything but respectful terms."

Threats of bringing the matter before the sporting tribunals are rife.

DUCAL TENANCY.

Mrs. Stowe, in her "Sunny Memories," extols the system pursued on the Duke of Sutherland's estate. The *Northern Ensign*, therefore, is indignant—denies the facts, and asserts that

"The system which Mrs. Stowe lauds is an utter failure. What, it asks, is the present social condition of the county of Sutherland but that of absolute and universal serfdom? The whole of its 25,000 inhabitants are, with less than 200 honourable but marked exceptions, either the most abject serfs or the uncomplaining and pliable tools of the duke's commissioner. Does any tenant or tenant's dependant dare to speak louder than in muttered whispers against a single despotic act of Mr. Loch? We know Mrs. Stowe's statements to be baseless, fabulous, and it is truly sad to think that a cause so noble and so well entitled to the support of mankind at large should suffer, as that of freedom will now do, from Mrs. Stowe's ill-judged and gratuitous defence of what she never personally inquired into. Sutherlandshire is just Russia in miniature—Russia absolutism, the rule of terror reigns with unchallenged sway. There is either rolling affluence or wretched poverty. There is the noblest structure in the north of Scotland, and there are the meanest huts. Almost within sight of proud Dunrobin's golden-peaked turrets there are cabins where human beings burrow, in which the Good Duke would not allow his dog to live. 'Superior power and wealth' have so far aided 'the struggles of advancing civilisation,' that in scores of instances, pigs and sheep, and dogs, and cattle, and human creatures live and move and have their being under the same roof. Dare they to complain of their state? 'Then,' say their surly tormentors, 'leave the country; you have no business here.' Do they venture to represent to the Duke their condition? Ways and means are taken to suppress their groanings, generally by the aid of threat and menace. And thus has universal Sutherland become totally paralysed. From head to foot the whole community is one vast festering sore. The whole charges against the people have been proved to be malignantly fabulous, and to be only adopted to afford a pretext for reneffing proprietorship with supreme sway, and securing the prosperity of the rich by the ruin of the poor. The vast and splendid straths of a noble county, wholly turned over to sheep farmers, were to be the source of more than oriental opulence to the Dunrobin treasury, and the county would speedily become one vast El Dorado. God has ordered otherwise; and while the enemies of the noble people of Sutherland have so far got their wish accomplished, in their wreck and eviction, their great aim has been neutralised, and with the destruction of the finest peasantry under heaven, remarkable for all those features of character which distinguish a truly noble community, has come the utter annihilation of all those phases of material prosperity which accompany, by the wise and merciful arrangements of the Divine Being, an industrious and free people. Mr. Loch has sown the wind, and he now reaps the whirlwind."

ARE LOUIS NAPOLEON AND THE SULTAN OF AMERICAN DESCENT?

The *Pittsburg Post* has a curious legend of late which will tend no doubt to connect more closely still the alliance between the Emperor of the French and the Porte.

The past history of the family of Louis Napoleon and the Sultan of Turkey is full of interesting and marvelous incidents, some of which are probably not known to our readers. These two monarchs, now so cordially united in the struggle to maintain the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, are both raised in the same neighbourhood, in the island of Martinique, one of the West Indies. They were of French origin, and companions and intimate friends in childhood and youth. They were Josephine de Tascher and a Miss S—, the history of Josephine is generally known. She went to France, and married to M. Beauharnais, by whom she had one son, Eugene, and a daughter, Hortense. Some time after the death of Beauharnais, Josephine was married to Napoleon Bonaparte, and became Empress of France. Her daughter Hortense was married to Joseph Bonaparte, then King of Holland, and the present Emperor of France is her son by this marriage. Miss S— quitted the island of Martinique some time before her friend. But the vessel which was carrying her to France was attacked and taken by the Algerine corsairs, and the crew and passengers were made prisoners. But this corsair ship was in turn attacked and pillaged by Turin pirates, and Miss S— was carried by them to Constantinople, and offered for sale as a slave. Her extraordinary beauty and accomplishments found her a purchaser in the Sultan himself, and she soon became the chief lady of the seraglio, and Sultana of Turkey. Mahmoud II. was her son, and the present Sultan, Abdul Medjid, is the son of Mahmoud. Thus the two sovereigns who now occupy so large a space in the world's eye, are grandsons of American creole girls, who were playmates in their youth, and were as remarkable for their beauty and excellent dispositions as their varied and singular fortunes. Both these women, in the height of their power, remembered all the friends of their youth, and provided munificently for their welfare. Many of the relatives of the Sultana left the island of Martinique and settled at Constantinople, where their descendants still reside, and enjoy the favour of the Sultan. The Sultana died in 1811, the Empress Josephine in 1814, and their grandsons now rule over two wide and powerful allies in one of the most momentous and sanguinary struggles in which Europe was ever involved.

INAUGURATION OF ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LIVERPOOL.

THE ceremony of opening St. George's Hall, at Liverpool, was performed on Monday—without the Queen or Prince Albert. The Mayor was supposed to be the next best person to preside, because of his office, and his being the chairman of the Building Committee.

The preparations in the hall were confined to the arrangements for the musical performances; and the ceremonial was of the slightest. The Mayor and Corporation, with a few local notabilities, marched in soon after eleven o'clock, the national anthem was sung, a prayer said by the Bishop of Chester, and then the Mayor declared the hall open in the following terms:—

"In the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of this ancient and loyal town, I proclaim this hall to be now opened. Hereafter all public meetings whatever convened by the Mayor will be held here; and the hall will also be used for other public purposes sanctioned by the council of the borough."

The musical part of the affair then commenced, and continued for a day or two; but they were not by any means satisfactory in their carrying out, although the selection was good.

There is no doubt that the long talked-of inauguration of this fine building was a failure, and reflects little credit on a large and wealthy town like Liverpool.

THE MORMONS.

THIS sect has gained proselytes in Wales. A large number of persons in South Wales have left, and others are still preparing to follow, for the Mormonite settlements in North America. These persons are principally from the counties of Carmarthen and Glamorgan, and many have given up a comfortable home and subsistence, in order to seek their paradise on the banks of the Salt Lake. A very large number of these deluded people has taken place from South Wales, and, if anything, the movement is on the increase. The emigrants are principally small farmers, mechanics, iron-workers, colliers, &c., with here and there persons of a better class. They make their way to Liverpool, Bristol, or Plymouth, and thence start for New Orleans, where they ascend the river to their new settlement.

The domesticity at the capital of Mormonism does not seem to be enticing. A recent visitor (Mr. Ferris) says:—

"Polygamy is introducing a new style of building at Salt Lake City. A man with half-a-dozen wives builds, if he can, a long, low dwelling, having six entrances from the outside; and when he takes in a new wife, if able to do so, adds another apartment. The object is to keep the women and babes as much as possible apart, and prevent those terrible cat-fights which sometimes occur, with all the ac-

companions of Billingsgate, torn caps, and broken brooms. Some have separate buildings in parts of the city remote from each other, and others have farm-houses; and the wives are thus kept separate, the husband dividing his time between them all.

Again:—

"A wife in Utah cannot live out half her days. In families where polygamy has not been introduced, she suffers as a wife of apprehension on the subject which can scarcely be conceived, much less described. There is a sad, compelling, sufficing look, obvious to the most ordinary observer, which tells the story, if there were no other evidence on the subject. In most cases it is producing premature old age, and some have already sunk into an early grave under an insupportable weight of affliction. The man, from the moment he makes up his mind to bring one or more concubines into the family, becomes always neglectful of, and in most cases, abusive to his wife. In every instance where it has been introduced it has totally destroyed all union of affection and interest previously existing. The wife has no further motive to labour and economize for the family, because she finds on her more intruders who have a right to share in the benefits of her exertions and the concubine, for a similar reason, feels no interest and makes no effort. The wife loses then for interfering with their comforts and estranging the affections of her husband; they, on the other hand, hate the wife and each other and the children of each other. The husband hates the wife on whose affections he has trampled, and over whom he has tyrannised, and hates each concubine, of whom he tires when a fresh one is introduced, and the children hate each other as cordially as a brood of half-starved young wolves. It is hate, and strife, and wickedness through the whole family circle. *Hecate* herself, in her deepest malignity, could not have devised a more effectual scheme to destroy the happiness of mankind. The husband, under the double influence of domestic discord and gross indulgence, loses his energy, becomes discouraged, sinks into the bloated, vulgar debauchee, and affords a capital illustration of the truth that

"Our pleasant vices are made the whips to scourge us."

In many families where there are as yet no concubines, the wife is anxious to remove from this valley of Sodom, as well as on her own account as to save her young daughters from becoming inmates of a priestly harem; and, as she has it in her power to obtain a divorce at any time, it may seem strange that she should remain the inmate of such a domestic hell. But a divorce would be of no practical benefit to her. She would be compelled to separate from her children; and, as she is powerless to perform an overland journey of over a thousand miles, to bring herself within the protection of a civil Government, she must, of course, remain, and seek a precarious livelihood, under the discouraging pressure of death vengeance."

THE CIRCULATION OF THE CZAR.

It is not surprising that Russian influence should be strong in Germany. The Imperial family has been most assiduous in its intermarriages with the lesser German Courts.

"The Emperor Alexander married a Princess of Baden, and the Emperor Nicholas married the daughter of Frederic William III, the sister of the reigning King. Catherine Paulowna, a sister of Alexander and of Nicholas, married, first, a Prince of the Oldenburg family, and afterwards the King of Wurtemberg. She died three years after her second marriage; but, though the royal widower afterwards married a German Princess, the short residence of Catherine Paulowna at the Court of Stuttgart established there relations with Russia which are now drawn so close as to need no extenuous strengthening. The eldest son of the King of Wurtemberg, Prince Charles, heir to the throne, was married in 1846 to the Grand Duchess Olga, daughter of the Czar Nicholas, and one of the King's nieces, the Princess Charlotte, now called Helena Paulowna (for German princesses who make Russian marriages change not only their names, but their religion as well), is married to the Grand Duke Michael, fourth son of the Emperor Paul. Prince Frederick, the son-in-law of the King, is a colonel of Russian Uhlans; one of the King's cousins, Prince Eugene, is a general of infantry in the service of the Czar; and one of his uncles, the Duke Alexander, was a Russian general-in-chief, and at the head of the direction of roads. The two sons of this Duke Alexander have both been major generals in the Russian army. Electoral Hesse and Grand Ducal Hesse are no less closely allied with the Imperial family of Russia than is Wurtemberg. In Grand Ducal Hesse Princess Mary, the daughter of the reigning Grand Duke Louis III., is married to the hereditary Grand Duke of Russia, Alexander Nicholasovich, and her brother, Prince Alexander, is a major-general in the service of Russia, and head of the Russian regiment of Borissoglebski. In Electoral Hesse Prince Frederic, a cousin of the Grand Duke, is married to the Grand Duchess Alexandra, daughter of the Emperor Nicholas. He is the colonel of the Russian regiment of Mariupol, and one of his uncles, Prince Emile, is colonel of the regiment of the dragoons of Khassan. Prince Ernest, one of the collateral branches of Hesse Philipsthal-Barchfeld, is a retired general of cavalry in the Russian service. In the Duchy of Warsaw the reigning duke, Adolph, is married to Elizabeth Michailowna, a daughter of the Grand Duke Michael and niece of the Czar. In Oldenburg Prince Pierre, son of the Czar's sister Catherine Paulowna, by her first marriage with the uncle of the reigning Grand Duke of Oldenburg, is a general of infantry in the Russian army, President of the Senate, Director of 'Affairs Civil and Ecclesiastical,' with the title of an 'Imperial Highness' by virtue of a special ukase. Lastly, the Grand Duke Constantine Nicholasovich is married to the Princess Alexandra, now the Grand Duchess Josephowna, a daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Altenburg; and the grand-daughter of the Grand Duke Michael of Russia is married to the Duke of Mecklenburg-

Strelitz. The pages of the *Almanach de Gotha* show how universally the Russian influence is represented at the Sovereign Courts and among the mediatized families of Germany. Where there are no intermarriages with the Imperial family, there are princes, dukes, and archdukes attached to the Muscovite army by military dignities and employments. It is startling to see how many chiefs of Russian regiments, and colonels of Russian Dragoons and Uhlans there are among the haughty nobles who surround the German Sovereigns."

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND SOLDIERS' BAGGAGE.

A CASE of conscience, in connexion with the war, has occurred at Bow-street:

A distress warrant was issued to enforce payment of a fine of 40s. and costs, imposed upon Mr. E. Lucas, coal and flour-merchant, Millbank-street, Westminster.

A few days ago Mr. Lucas was summoned before the Court, to answer the charge of having refused to supply a wagon to convey a portion of the baggage of the first battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards from the Wellington Barracks to one of the railway stations. Other tradesmen had promptly obeyed the directions given to them, in her Majesty's service, but the defendant, being a member of the Society of Friends, and also a conscientious adherent to the Peace Association, had resolutely refused to assist the military authorities in any way whatever. Proceedings were taken against Mr. Lucas, and a summons having been served upon him, the defendant attended in person, and expressed his determination to persist in refusing to allow any of his men, horses, or carts, to be employed in a manner so opposed to his views, or so repugnant to his conscience. Mr. Lucas stated that it was well known he had always hitherto done so, and he considered that he ought not to be applied to again. The magistrate intimated that the penalty for disobeying orders of that kind was 5*l.*, to which the defendant replied that he was well aware of it, and if his worship thought fit to inflict the fine upon him, he (Mr. Lucas) should respectfully decline to pay it. He was then informed that a distress warrant might issue in default, and property to the requisite value would be seized from his premises; but the defendant gave his worship to understand that the adoption of this course or any other was indifferent to him, and would not alter his resolution in the matter. Eventually the mitigated penalty of 2*l.* and costs was imposed, and three days allowed for payment, at the expiration of which, the money being still unpaid, the distress warrant was directed to be issued.

The officers who executed the warrant reported, on their return, that they found Mr. Lucas absent from his place of business. One of his clerks suggested that the officers might help themselves to a sack of flour, but, seeing some loose money in an open desk, they preferred to take the amount they required, and accordingly did so, the clerk in attendance declining either to sanction or to oppose their mode of satisfying the claim of her Majesty.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND HIS VISIT TO BRISTOL.

THE invitation given to Lord John Russell to preside at the opening of the Bristol Athenæum is causing a "difficulty." The Conservatives are undecided as to the manner in which they are to receive him. An organ of that party is diffuse on the subject. It states:—

We are yet five weeks distant from Lord John Russell's visit to Bristol to open the Athenæum, yet we have begun a fight about the little man, before we have seen the tip of his nose. If there was one occasion more than another upon which it behoved people to be careful not to create a difference, it is his Lordship's visit. The leader of the Whig party, it was desirable so to shape his reception that it should be the historian and imperial statesman, not the politician, we were welcoming; and in this spirit a majority of the Conservative Town Council undertook, we confess, the somewhat delicate task of entertaining him at a banquet, without any compromise or concession of opinion on their part. A contemporary now protests against this limited mode of receiving the President of her Majesty's Council, and we have before us several letters insisting upon a general city jollification, with, we suppose, triumphal arches, banners, &c. The question, then, naturally resolves itself into this: are we going to receive his Lordship as a great Whig leader, as the representative of a party, or—what we think he would conceive a much greater compliment, taken in connection with the occasion—as the accomplished man and friend of letters, the English gentleman, and, if you will have it, a high servant of the Crown.

So far as the suggestions go against his Inaugural Address being delivered in the limited theatre of the Athenæum, they are worth consideration. But one of our correspondents is quite jealous of the Mayor and Corporation having his Lordship all to themselves, and proposes that a public meeting be held to consider the best way of testifying their regard for the noble Lord; while another gives the following pungent programme of the day's proceedings:—

"First he is to be rammed, crammed, and jammed into one of the rooms of the Athenæum to meet the members, although it is patent to all that they have not an apartment capable of containing half of them. When he has managed to make his speech in a stifling atmosphere, and, being a weakly man, will be no doubt considerably exhausted, he is to be smuggled off in the Mayor's state carriage to have something to eat—a bit of fat turtle, and other delicacies—and to have the great pleasure of sitting down and enjoying the society of the Corporation of Bristol, who are to have the sole pleasure of his society, on condition of their handing out 5*l.* each, for which they are to be allowed to bring a lady, who in the course of the evening is to have the great privilege of enjoying a warm ice and a bit of plum cake."

PUBLIC HEALTH.—THE CHOLERA.

THE Mortality from Cholera has materially decreased in the last week; nevertheless the Board of Health is active.

The Medical Council has commenced its operations and has issued the following circular:—

"The Medical Council of the Board of Health, having been requested by the President to prepare any formula that the Board might make public, for use in cases of premonitory diarrhoea, before the arrival of medical aid, the following resolution was agreed to:—

"That the Medical Council think it, as a rule, dangerous for non-medical persons to resort to the use of drugs without medical advice, and especially they deprecate the extensive use of opiates, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, aperients, such as castor oil and salts.

"The Medical Council, moreover deem it impossible to prescribe a remedy which would be appropriately or even safely taken by all persons suffering from diarrhoea.

"They are of opinion that the paper called 'Precautions against Cholera,' contains instructions for all the measures which the public unadvised should adopt. But they suggest that the heads of families should consult their usual medical attendants as to the measures to be taken in cases of emergency, and that the medical officers appointed by Boards of Guardians, and other parish authorities, should take care to give the same information to persons of the poorer classes."

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CHOLERA.

1. Apply for medicine immediately to stop looseness or the bowels or it may bring on Cholera.
2. Do not take any strong opening medicine without medical advice.
3. Beware of drink, for excess in beer, wine, or spirits, is likely to be followed by Cholera.
4. Drink no water which has not been boiled, and avoid that which is not quite clear and well-tasted.
5. Avoid eating meat that is tainted, decayed or unripe fruit, and stale fish or raw vegetables; cooked vegetables, or ripe and cooked fruit in moderation, are a necessary part of diet at all times.
6. Avoid fasting too long. Be moderate at meals.
7. Avoid great fatigue, and getting heated and then chilled.
8. Avoid getting wet, or remaining in wet cloths.
9. Keep yourself clean, and your body and feet as dry and as warm as your means and occupation will permit.
10. Keep your rooms well cleaned and lime-washed, remove all dirt and impurities immediately.
11. Keep your windows open as much as possible, to admit fresh air, and if necessary, use chloride of lime or zinc to remove any offensive smells.
12. If there are any dust or dirt fleas, foul drains, bad smells, or other nuisances in the house or neighbourhood, make complaint without delay to the local authorities having legal power to remove them; or, if there be no such authorities, or you do not know who they are, complain to the Board of Guardians.

In the seven days extending from the third to the ninth of September the deaths of 3,413 persons were recorded; and 2,050 of the number were caused by cholera; which had, in partial eruptions, all over London, destroyed in nine weeks 5,26, 183, 899, 644, 729, 847, 1,287, 2,050, or in the aggregate, 6,120 lives.

The outbreak began later than the corresponding outbreak of 1849, which, by the same date, had in 16 weeks been fatal to 10,143 persons.

Will the epidemic pursue its ravages? will it observe its own times, disregard the seasons, and exact its full tale of victims? Such were the questions that were asked—with no little anxiety—by those who watched over the public health during the last week; and the answer, notwithstanding the losses that are recorded, is on the whole satisfactory.

The deaths from all causes have fallen from 3,413 to 2,836 in the week.

The deaths from cholera, instead of 2,050, are 1,549, or 501 less than the deaths from the same cause in the preceding week. The total deaths in the present eruption have been 7,669; in the eruption of 1849 the deaths by cholera up to the same date, within one day, were 11,825. In both of the eruptions the mortality was highest on nearly the same day of September; its decline commenced in the corresponding week; and we may now sanguinely hope that it will descend as rapidly as it did in the autumn of 1849.

But no exertion should be spared to save the thousands whose lives are still threatened; and the dread lesson, before regarded so little, should never be forgotten—that men can no longer drink polluted water, breathe impure air, neglect sanitary measures year after year with impunity.

The Cholera has reappeared in Millbank Prison among the few prisoners who still remained there. Two cases have terminated fatally.

The epidemic has appeared at Salisbury.

At Belfast and Lisburn it has not yet abated—while in Dublin several new cases have occurred.

It has broken out in Madrid, and it was said that General O'Donnell had had an attack, but recovered.

At Barbadoes the disease was on the decline, but it had broken out in Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent.

The Inquest on Miss Anne Colyer, of Fulham, which took place last week, and was postponed for an analysis of the stomach, has been renewed. She had been taking "Waterton's Cholera Specifics," which appear to contain "a large quantity of ammonia, so strong as to destroy the cork in the phial of the bottle." The medical evidence went to show that poisoning by ammonia was rare, but when it did take place the appearance of the stomach was similar to that of the deceased, in whose stomach traces of ammonia had been found; and had she recovered from the Cholera, it would have been necessary to treat her for poisoning by ammonia.

The verdict was: "Died from Cholera, death having been accelerated by the use of Waterton's medicine."

The medical men of Hull have published a denial to a statement "that Cholera had broken out in that town."

The Rev. Mr. Moule, of Fordington, Dorsetshire, has written to Prince Albert, as guardian of the estates of the Duchy of Cornwall, pointing out the coincidence of the appearance of Cholera in Dorchester with the transfer of the prisoners from Millbank Prison to that place. He shows that there is a district of the town peculiarly liable to infection, and expresses his belief that the Cholera has been caused by the washing of the convicts' clothes in this district.

The use of castor oil in Cholera has attracted the notice of the Medical Council of the Board of Health. They have investigated the cases treated with this medicine. The result is not satisfactory. A statement of the cases is published, and it appears that in 89 cases of Cholera treated by 14 different practitioners with castor oil, on the plan recommended by Dr. Johnson, 68 were fatal, recovery having occurred only in 15 cases, while the six remaining cases are still under treatment.

THE WAR-MEETING AT NEWCASTLE.

LORD CLANRICARDE AND LORD LYNDEHURST.

At the public meeting held at Newcastle a week or two ago, on the subject of the war, among other resolutions adopted was one expressive of gratitude and respect from the meeting for the able exposition, in the House of Lords, by Lords Lyndhurst and Clanricarde, of the perfidy and ambition of Russia, and of the necessity of effectually curbing her power. The resolution has been duly forwarded to their lordships by the chairman, and these replies have been received.

Lord Clanricarde says, after acknowledging the compliment:—

"I have no doubt that hostilities might have been avoided with honour and advantage, and the designs of Russia been checked by timely decision; but now, in the conduct and the issue of the war are involved the best interests of England, as well as of the Continent, of commerce, and civilisation, and of freedom.

"The meeting at Newcastle, and the forcible speeches there delivered, cannot fail to have a salutary and important effect, and to give energy and influence to sentiments which I believe are generally entertained by the British people."

Lord Lyndhurst confines himself to the personal compliment, saying:—

"It is a great satisfaction to me to find that my public conduct on this interesting and important subject has met with the approbation of so numerous and enlightened a portion of my fellow-subjects.

"I beg to express through you the grateful sense I entertain for this distinguished mark of their favour. Pray accept my best thanks for the courtesy of your communication."

OFFICER AND GENTLEMAN.

THE Indian navy has contributed to the interesting class of cases which are rapidly dissociating the twin designation of officer and gentleman. A trial has taken place in the Bombay Supreme Court, in which Captain S. B. Haines, of the Indian navy, was the defendant, on a charge of embezzlement. The prisoner is a captain in the Indian navy, and was employed as political agent at Aden. He had a treasury under his charge, containing public money for public disbursements. It was supplied by consignments of bullion from Bombay, by bills drawn by him at Aden and money received there, from the revenue arising from the Post-office, Customs, Pilotage, &c. Deficiencies to a large amount were clearly proved to exist, and it was also shown that large sums of the public money had been placed in the hands of a Bombay firm by Captain Haines, and mixed up with his private account; and that the deficiency had never been made good.

The question left to the jury was whether the prisoner had fraudulently misapplied the government funds entrusted to his care. They seemed to think that that term was not applicable to the case, and acquitted the prisoner.

CAVE CANEM.

THE English in Paris are good enough occasionally to offer pleasant matter for the Tribunals.—The following story is told by the Paris Correspondent of a daily paper:—

"You may remember recording some time since a strange trial which took place here. A certain Mr. Lousada laid wait with his valet, and threw some vitriol in the face of a Mr. Wheble, who it appeared, had had *des relations* with Mrs. Lousada. Mr. Wheble appeared again yesterday in Court as a defendant, not as a plaintiff, in an affair which grew out of the other. Mrs. Lousada's aunt had borrowed 150 francs from Mr. Wheble, depositing a small King Charles spaniel with him as a security for the money. Probably this is the first instance in the annals of pawnbroking of the canine species being utilised for this purpose. The pledged dog soon afterwards was bestowed by Mr. Wheble as a pledge of affection on his mistress, a Madame Garcia, and the other day Madame Sagnier went to pay back the 150 francs, and demanded restitution of the dog, but Mr. Wheble, who does not appear to have had much experience in the pawnbroking business, or to be aware of its responsibilities, refused to give it up, saying that he had given it to a lady, and that he could not take it back from her. They insisted, but finding him peremptory in his refusal, they applied to the Commissary of Police. That functionary, however, could do nothing, and they had accordingly been obliged to bring their action. They demanded that Mr. Wheble should be condemned to heavy damages, otherwise he would keep the dog—which was worth 600 francs at the very least. That sum, indeed, they added, he had offered, but they had refused it. Mr. Wheble opposed the action, on the ground that he had purchased the dog, and he ridiculed the idea of a man in his position lending so small a sum on such security. The dog, he said, had been offered him by the plaintiffs for 200fr. and he had got it by bargaining at 150fr. He complained of their ingratitude to him, and produced a letter written by M. Sagnier in 1852, expressing gratitude for past services, and asking for a loan of 200fr. He also said that they had merely brought the action as a means of creating scandal to avenge Mme. de Lousada, their niece, and her mother, Mme. de Vaisore. After patiently weighing all the facts of the case, the tribunal condemned Mr. Wheble to give up the dog within three days on receiving payment of the 150fr., and in case of his neglecting to do so to pay 5fr. every day's delay for a month—after which the tribunal, if the animal be not given up, will again decide what is to be done. It also condemned Mr. Wheble to pay the costs."

RUSSIA PAINTED BY A RUSSIAN.

A RESIDENT at Berlin has received a suggestive letter from a member of the upper classes of Russia, living in the interior. The feelings it expresses are not consolatory as regards the prospects of the Czar.

The general opinion in the part of Russia in which the writer lives is that, as things stand, she can only be saved by the German Powers. The policy of the Western Powers on attacking Russia from the Asiatic side, and occupying Sebastopol and Odessa, is felt to be wise.

"It is true," he says, "that it is no easy matter to get possession of these towns; the enemies of Russia know that very well, and this is the reason of their slow and cautious approach to this coast; but they hope by a careful organisation of their attack unfailingly to attain their aim. At all events, the struggle there will be a bloody one. Russia, with a presentiment that that is the quarter from which the danger would come, has already stationed two *corps d'armée* there under Generals Debutoff and Andronikoff. A third *corps d'armée* is already on the march thither from the interior, and will serve as reserve. The town of Anapa is being fortified in all haste, and in its vicinity a body of 20,000 picked Russian troops is lying. The entire force of the troops collected together there (apparently meaning in the Crimea and the coasts of the neighbouring continent) amount to about 100,000 men. The shock will thus be a fearful one. Should the Russians be beaten, as is to be feared (seeing that the superiority is so great on the side of the enemy, and the Russian army, though it has very brave, has at the same time but few intelligent generals), the hostile forces would stream over the most beautiful and most fertile portions of the Russian empire. Those tracts of country compose the Russian Italy, which is very little known abroad, and the maintenance of a numerous army is an easy affair, as, in addition to the most beautiful products of the soil, such as wheat, maize, rye, &c., there is also forage in plenty for the cavalry. Everything of this kind is in such quantities there that grain has hardly any money value—for instance, wheat costs 1s. 6d. English per bushel; hay, straw, &c., has no value at all. Horned cattle are in such abundance there that the poorest beast must be given to the poor, and often even to the dogs, simply from the inability of the population to consume it. The tallow alone of these immense herds is used for export to foreign countries."

The winter, though long, is not severe, and cannot be reckoned for effects like those of 1812, and a "hostile army could support itself there comfortably for years."

"The point which the Western Powers have selected for their attack is, therefore, well and wisely chosen—that is the most vulnerable point of the empire. If the German Powers continue to observe the same inaction—if they let the attack of the English and French be quietly organised—if they wait for the collision then actually to take place—there can be very little doubt as to the future of Russia. It is true Russia has a great army on foot, but she is, nevertheless, not able to concentrate more than from 200,000 to 300,000 men on one point. Its geographical position, the nature of the locality, the administration of the commissariat, the present political relations in general, involve this deplorable state of things. If a hostile invasion of the southern

provinces of Russia finally is not prevented, the interior of this empire is as good as deprived of its vital artery, and Russia must surrender at discretion to her enemies. You will, I trust, forward to Berlin this matter for reflection, so that help may be sent us from Prussia as rapidly as possible. Conferences and protocols, pacific proposals and diplomatic concoctions are no good here; they only procure the enemy time to make his attack good. There is only one help possible—one rescue practicable—and that is, that Prussia should immediately despatch 800,000 men to Poland, and even further on towards the Crimea, and prevent the collision. Two months later, and it will be too late. The internal organisation of the Russian army is not of that nature that, when it is once beaten, it can be easily and speedily re-organised."

He makes light of the Russian soldiers and inferior officers; and as to the generals, they "are far from equal to the catastrophe in which they are now involved; and as to a commander-in-chief, there is none at all, for Paskiewitch is only an antiquated *souvenir*—a personage of past history; and Gortschakoff, whom I have met in Warsaw, is, it is true, a highly educated man, well read in the literature of all countries; but at the same time an elderly used-up man, without a spark of military fire in his eye—a general fit only for parade."

The writer regrets the number of Poles in the Russian army, who are sure, he says, to take the first opportunity of fraternising with their countrymen in the French and Turkish armies. He also treats as a delusion the notion that the Turkish soldiers are any longer "barbarian boobies"—and regrets its being so prevalent among Russian officers.

Altogether, the view he takes of the affairs of his country is gloomy enough.

OUR CIVILISATION.

MRS. SAUNDERS is the wife of a butcher at Barnstaple. She was accused by her husband of having been drinking. She replied, "If you say that again, I'll stab you." Further altercation ensuing, she carried out her dreadful threat by plunging the knife she held in her hand into his side, just below the left arm, on which he exclaimed, "Now you have done it; come and pull it out, for I can't." The unfortunate man then staggered across the street, bleeding profusely, when he said, "Help me home, for I'm a dead man! My wife has done it; but I provoked her, and I forgive her." There is very little hope of his life.

The great "Newman-street" prosecution has ended in nothing. Perhaps "high influences" have been effectually at work to stifle inquiry. Money was evidently not wanting when bail sufficiency was to be quietly estreated. The story is this:—

"At the Central Criminal Court, Germain Marmayres was called upon to surrender and take his trial for misdemeanour. The defendant was committed by the Lord Chief Baron, at the last assizes of Maidstone, in consequence of his admitting, upon his being examined as a witness, that he was the keeper of a notorious brothel in Newman-street. An action was brought against him by a French prostitute, to recover a sum of money to which she alleged herself to be entitled, as the wages of her filthy occupation, and the defendant was called to contradict her testimony; and upon his making the admission that he was the keeper of the house in question, the Lord Chief Baron committed him to take his trial for the offence of keeping a disorderly house. The defendant did not surrender. Mr. Bodkin, who appeared for the prosecution, said that the defendant ought to have appeared at the last session, and it was pretty well known that he did not intend to come forward and take his trial, and that he had, in fact, left this country. The recorder ordered the recognisances of the defendant, and also those of his sureties, to be estreated."

At the Guildhall Police Court, William Scully, "an athletic young fellow," was committed for a month for an assault on a policeman. He threatened to "do for the policeman," and was ordered to find sureties to keep the peace. He left the dock, and in a few minutes after the door of the gaoler's room was burst open, and the policeman rushed in with the prisoner clinging round his neck, and furiously attacking him. He took a dozen policemen to overpower and handcuff him, and was remanded, in order that his new offence might be considered.

At Preston, Thomas Halden was charged with bigamy, having married one wife in 1846, deserted, and married a second. The second wife was unable to attend before the magistrates to give evidence on the second hearing, because in the interval, between that and the first occasion, she had been confined with twins.

At Bury, a labouring man named Bradley believed his wife to be faithless with one Fletcher, whereupon he sold her to her paramour for a sovereign, who took the woman home. All the parties were driven out of the neighbourhood by the indignation of the people.

A Nottingham adventurer left that place a few days ago with 400l. trust-money, belonging to the wife of another person. He was overtaken by the lady at Liverpool, who, instead of taking him back

to her husband, consented to add herself to her 400l., and went off with the robber to Australia.

Sarah Smith, of Vincent-street, Shoreditch, had an altercation with her husband, in the course of which she caught up a sharp-pointed knife and flung it at him. She missed him, but the knife struck into the thigh of her child, five years old, who was lying asleep near at hand. The boy's life is in danger, and she is in custody.

Margaret Thomas, a girl of eighteen, but of abandoned life, was on her way from Newport to Carmarthen. Before she reached her destination a ruffian made proposals to her of an improper character, which she rejected. He attacked her in the most savage manner, knocked her down with his fists, and then kicked her, leaving her drenched in blood and apparently dying. She remains in a precarious state. The man has not been found.

A Catholic priest, the Rev. Mr. Singleton, has had to meet and rebut a serious charge at Stockton. Miss Jane Jones, daughter of a clergyman of the Church of England, left her family, became a Roman Catholic, lived in several families as a governess, and finally took up her abode in Mr. Singleton's house. On her oath, she deposed that he had criminal intercourse with her on several occasions, told her she would have a child, and insinuated an attempt at causing abortion. She had a child, and sought to affiliate it on Mr. Singleton. Evidence against her case was produced, showing that her account of the affair was not correct, that she had offered to compromise for a sum of money, and that she was not a very immaculate person in her general conduct. The case was dismissed, and proceedings threatened against Miss Jones.

THE OATH SCRUPLE.

At the Middlesex Sessions the names of the jurors fined for non-attendance at the previous Session were called over—one of them stepped forward and was about to make a statement to induce the Court to spare the fine, when he was requested to take the oath.

He said he objected to do so on conscientious grounds, believing that it was prohibited by the word of God. In answer to the Court, he said he was neither a Quaker, a Mormon, nor a Separatist.

The Assistant-Judge said there was a new act on the subject of oaths, but it could not be applied to this case, as it did not come into operation until the 24th of October. He could not legally hear what the jurymen had to say unless he took the oath. Therefore he must take his choice, pay the fine or be sworn.

The jurymen said he had not the means of paying the fine (10s.).

The Assistant-Judge said he could not help him unless he was sworn.

The jurymen then left the Court.

DEATH OF COLONEL BOYLE, M.P.

The mortality in the army of the East continued up to the time of the embarkation from Varna. Among the most recent deaths reported is that of Colonel Boyle, of the Guards, and M.P. for Frome. He was a well known member of the House of Commons, being a constant attendant, and was always moving about. His small, neat figure, in a remarkably spruce dress, was to be seen fitting in and out of the door, and loitering about the lobby during the greater part of the time the House was sitting, and he always presented an appearance of great energy and activity. He was appointed Secretary to the Master-General of the Ordnance; after resigning the secretaryship of the Order of St. Patrick, which appointment was, in 1852, held by an elective committee, to have voided his seat for Frome. He did not go out with the first part of the army of the East; but joined soon after the recent brevet had caused several officers of his regiment to come home on promotion. He sank under a severe fever at Varna, and was buried in the sea.

THE BIBLE IN A THEATRE.

There has been a warm dispute in the Town Council of Sheffield about the licensing of the theatre.

The proprietor let the house some time ago to a lecturer on the divine authority of the Bible. When a renewal of the license was applied for there was a demur on the part of the magistrates, on the ground that the letting of the theatre for such lectures was calculated to "injure the morals of the youths of the town," and the application was adjourned for a fortnight. A liberal member of the council made a motion expressive of the regret of that body at observing that the borough bench of magistrates had attempted to put a stop to the free expression of opinion on speculative subjects, by refusing to grant a license to Mrs. Scott, of the Adelphi Theatre, on the ground that she had let the theatre for a series of lectures on the divine authority of the Bible. The motion was, however, lost by 23 to 4.

THE WAR—TO THE MINISTRY.

THERE are to be further demonstrations against the Ministry and their conduct of the war, besides the meeting at Newcastle. A requisition has been presented to the Mayor of Sheffield, desiring him to call a public meeting for the "purpose of considering the propriety of sending an address to her Majesty expressive of a want of confidence in the present Ministry and their mode of dealing with the war." The meeting is to be held on Monday evening, and the resolutions and addresses are to be of a very vigorous character.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GLASGOW AND ARCHITECTURE.—An Architectural Exhibition will shortly be opened in Glasgow. The principal object aimed at is the improvement of the tastes of the citizens by bringing under their notice the productions of artists and manufacturers of different countries, and the illustration of the progress and improvement in art-manufacture which has taken place of late years. It is intended to illustrate these by exhibiting the past and present state of home and foreign art-architecture by means of pictures, drawings, sculpture, photographs, casts and models, and specimens of articles of house decoration in furniture or otherwise. The architects of the city and their friends have shown their sincerity in the prosecution of this most laudable object by purchasing and fitting up at their own cost a commodious building in Bath-street, for the purpose of the exhibition. Members of the committee are at present on the Continent selecting works of art and architectural specimens.

THE BEDFORD BELL.—The bell which the Duke of Bedford, head of the Russell family, bestowed on the Church of Rosel, in the canton de Tilly-sur-Seuilles, has been landed at Caen, and is at this moment at Mr. Barrow's English Consul, whence it is to be shortly transferred to Rosel. The church of this commune was built by the family of Lord John Russell.

RAILWAY CAPITAL AND LOANS.—From a parliamentary paper recently printed it appears that the total capital and loans which the various railway companies of the United Kingdom were authorised by Acts of Parliament to raise up to the 31st of December last, amounted to no less a sum than 366,769,732l. 15s. Of this 274,369,932l. 17s. 4d. was by capital, and 92,399,799l. 17s. 8d. by loan. The total amount actually raised by the various companies up to the 31st of December last was 273,324,516l. 6s. 9d., of which 65,072,958l. 12s. 11d. was by loan, and 208,251,557l. 18s. 10d. by share capital. Of this last, 164,724,177l. 18s. 10d. neither received, nor was entitled to receive, preferential dividend or interest. The railway companies still retained power at the end of 1853 to raise 91,289,840l. 17s., either by existing or new shares, or by loans. The total length of railway open for traffic at the end of 1853 was 7686 miles 454 chains, of which 5987 miles 224 chains were as double lines, and 1699 miles 224 chains as single lines; 883 miles 60 chains were in course of construction at that time, and 4079 miles 494 chains had been authorised, but had not been commenced.

CULTIVATION OF FLAX.—At a recent meeting of the Leeds and Yorkshire Flax Society, Mr. Edisson (the secretary) said he had heard from many persons that they had been able to cultivate flax with astonishing success, and he thought this subject ought to meet with attention and consideration from all farmers. Mr. Wilkinson, flax spinner, mentioned two or three instances which had come under his notice of a most splendid crop of wheat after a crop of flax, and his opinion that the best crops of wheat could be obtained where flax had been sown the year before was corroborated by one or two other gentlemen.

ABANDONMENT OF THE ERICSSON CALORIC PROJECT.—The caloric engine invented by Captain Ericsson has been finally abandoned, and is to be taken out of the ship bearing his name, steam boilers being substituted. From the beginning this result has been foreseen by practical and scientific men, notwithstanding the alleged complete success of the experiment.—*North American.*

PRIESTS AND NURSERY-MAIDS.—A Bristol paper indignantly tells a story communicated by a correspondent, "who was walking along the private road leading by the side of Redland-court to Redland-green and Chapel, when he saw before him a man with a long black coat reading out of a book to some nursery-maids and children. As the gentlemen drew near the man closed the book and walked away rapidly. This excited their suspicion, and when they overtook the young women, they inquired who he was? upon which a man, who was working close by, answered that he believed he was a priest, and that he was in the habit of frequenting those roads and the green, and 'reading Catholic books' to such of the nursery-maids and children that he met. This further inflamed the curiosity of the gentlemen, so they started at a quick pace after him; but his reverence, if such he were, gave them a specimen of what Laurie Todd calls 'mighty tall walking,' and was soon out of sight."

DEATH OF A SCOTTISH POET.—We are informed by a Scotch paper "of the death of old Walter Watson, the poet of Kirkintilloch. He died on the 13th inst., in the 75th year of his age. About the beginning of the present century, he appeared before the public as a poet, in the songs 'Jockie's Far Awa', 'Sae Will we Yet,' and others, which have since then acquired great popularity. Walter was an humble weaver to trade. In the earlier part of his life he served for three years in the Scots Greys. Independent of his merit as one of the best of our minor Scottish poets, he was a good and worthy man, revered and beloved by almost all who knew him."

A RAILWAY TUNNEL FALLS IN.—On the Leeds Northern Railway, on Tuesday, a train was passing through a tunnel at Brainhope, about seven miles from Leeds, carrying between 200 and 300 passengers. One side of the tunnel fell in, severed the train in two, and buried two of the carriages. The engine, with part of the carriages, got through, and ran back, when it came in contact with a truck full of Irish

reapers. The guard was injured, but with the exception of one lady, who had her leg broken, no one was seriously hurt.

THE CARADORI CASE.—The indictment of the carpenter of Drury Lane Theatre for perjury, in an affidavit under which Madame Caradori was arrested, has been tried, and ended in the acquittal of the accused, who trusted to his attorney, and swore whatever he told him.

THE EARL OF ELGIN.—One of the "Garters" now vacant is to be bestowed on the Earl of Elgin. As Sir Edmund Head has been gazetted Governor-General of Canada, Lord Elgin has probably some more substantial recompense in view than the "Garter."

REFORM IN TURKEY.—The Turkish Government has promulgated a hatti scheriff, branding with reprobation the corruption of certain functionaries, and ordering a better execution of the laws. The execution of the tanzimat is placed under the surveillance of a special council, composed of five Mussulmans, four Greek and Armenian Schismatics, three Catholics, and one Jew.

A LORD AND A NEWSPAPER.—The printing press and types of the *Dundalk Democrat*, together with sundry other goods and chattels of the proprietor, have been seized at the suit of Lord Clermont for the sum of 330l., the amount of the verdict obtained by his lordship, and of the bill of costs in the late action for libel against that journal.

TRIALS WITHOUT A JURY.—A new feature in the law with respect to trials will commence from and after the 24th October, when the Common Law Procedure Act will come into operation. It is provided that a judge by consent may try questions of fact without a jury, provided the court, upon a rule to show cause, or a judge shall think fit to allow such trial, and the verdict of the judge is to be of the same effect as the verdict of a jury, save that it shall not be questioned upon the ground of being against the weight of evidence, and the proceedings upon and after such trial, as to the power of the court or judge, the evidence and otherwise, shall be the same as in the case of trial by jury. Counsel on each side are also to have a speech more apiece. The evidence is to be summed up on both sides.

AN HONOURABLE STOKER.—The Hon. E. G. Petre is appointed the locomotive superintendent of the North British Railway.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, Sept. 23.

THE EXPEDITION TO THE CRIMEA.

Constantinople, Sept. 15.

By an English boat arrived from the Crimea Lord Raglan writes, on the 12th, that the coast was not seriously defended, and that he had faith in the success of the debarkation.

The weather was fine and favourable.

All the vessels had arrived without accident.

The captain added that he had set off on the 13th, that on the evening of the same day three regiments had disembarked and taken possession of Eupatoria without a blow being struck, and that the landing of the entire army ought to have taken place on the next day, about twenty miles to the south of that town.

The weather here is magnificent.

Vienna, Friday, Sept. 22.

From Russian sources it has been learned that the Russians did not oppose the landing of the English and French troops, because their entire force in the Crimea numbers only 38,000 men, besides the garrison of Sebastopol, 12,000 strong—viz., 8000 cavalry between Eupatoria and Simferopol, and on the heights from St. Crimea to Sebastopol 30,000 men and 48 guns.

The Russians will defend their heights to the uttermost.

THE BALTIC.

Dantzic, Thursday, Sept. 21.

The Bulldog has arrived, having left the fleet at Ledsund on the 19th. The French fleet had left.

The Austerlitz got on the Stockholm rocks on the 20th, but was got off with the loss of her guns.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

Vienna, Friday, Sept. 22.

The Austrian Government sent a despatch yesterday to Baron Hess, ordering him to concede the occupation of Galatz and Ibraila to the Turks, if Omer Pacha desired it. Thus all differences are handsomely settled.

Jassy, Sept. 18.

Prince Gortschakoff left on the 16th for Skulani. Jassy is completely evacuated. The bridge over the Pruth is to be removed to-morrow.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1854.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—*DR. ANKOLD.*

AFTER SEBASTOPOL—WHAT?

It is only justice to the armies of England, France, and Turkey, to assume that by this time Sebastopol is taken, and that the flags of the three nations were over that redoubted fortress.

It is a great blow; and, no doubt, a permanent blow. We disbelieve the elaborate story that Marshal St. Arnaud's impetuosity to get to the Crimea arose in his expectation that, after the conquest, it would be created a duchy, he to be the duke, after the Crusades fashion. But we do not doubt that the Crimea is to be converted into a State independent of Russia; and we therefore anticipate some guarantee that, for the future, Constantinople will be safer than it has been during the last quarter of a century.

The war might finish then. No treaty would be wanted. The allies might ignore Russia: and, leaving a few war-ships here and there, gazette a peace. The Pruth will not soon be passed again by a Cossack—let Austrian policy be what it may. We may keep a fleet in the Baltic—say the Tagus fleet—and shut up Cronstadt permanently. The Sebastopol fortress and fleet destroyed, the Black Sea will no longer be a *mare clausum*. English frigates can cruise about there. Russian prestige would be annihilated on all sides of Russia. Turkey, the most reforming nation on the face of the globe, grows apace, and will gradually become strong enough to do without her western protectors. For one campaign this would be a large result—a considerable stroke of business in defending civilisation.

At this point, therefore, the English public has to realise the objects for which it has gone to war.

The leading journal, passing Sebastopol, has arrived at Cronstadt. The note "Cronstadt" is struck as boldly as the note "Sebastopol" was struck, previously, and there may be the same official foresightfulness in the reference. That would be an affair of next season; and, of course, it is a mere matter of men and money—the taking St. Petersburg. But, having reached that point, there comes the question—what are we to do with St. Petersburg? Dictate a treaty? Yes. But what do we want with a treaty? The independence of Turkey has been obtained. The opening and clearing of the Danube is a fact at our disposal. The Russian fleets are annihilated—or may be so shut up as to constitute their fate a practical annihilation. Russian prestige is gone. Schamyl is the assailant: and with a little encouragement and money Schamyl could do our Indian business for us, and create a great empire between Russia and British India—replacing Persia.

Considerations of this character suggest to us, an enlightened people, that we have not the slightest idea what we are about in this war. If we merely mean a war against Russia for Turkish integrity and independence, we have already got what we want: and further war would be waste of time and capital. We have checked Russia, as an encroaching power, for some years. The Austrian states-

men detect that great fact, and are grateful to us; consequently, wait quietly until, Sebastopol being taken, they are placed in a position to intimate to us that peace is now possible—for that they are satisfied. They are reproached for having said that they see no *casus belli* at present; what they meant was *casus pacis*.

The French and English Governments do not want Cronstadt; they accordingly order home D'Hilliers and Napier, and they will effect a peace, or what will amount to a peace—though there still technically may be war. Here, then, will begin a conflict between the English Government and the English nation. And, therefore, arises the opportunity for the English nation becoming the English Government.

The ball—a cannon-ball—is rolling; ought it not to be kept up? We might lose the Austrian alliance. We would not lose the French alliance. Louis Napoleon dare not separate himself from England; he consults his public opinion, and knows that France desires to become the chief military power in Europe—and, as a matter of sentiment, to re-create Poland.

It is open to the English nation to decree the destruction of Russia; and the destruction of Russia means—freedom for nations in Europe. A war for any object but the destruction of Russia is a sham war—it is a war for Austria, which is another Russia. After Sebastopol, then, by all means St. Petersburg—but with a purpose.

We are in one of those periods of our peculiar history when public opinion, properly pronounced and organised, is omnipotent. One reason why the public opinion may now have power is, that our public men are fifth-rate personages, not only without principles, but without opinions. We can point to no one man now conspicuous in the councils of the Queen of whom we can say—he is our leader in this war. Neither individually nor unitedly has the Cabinet presented us with a conception of the objects of the war. "Considerations for the public service" excuse the mystery. We believe it may be explained by the profound unintelligence of the men who are born our statesmen, and who are utterly ignorant of what now to do with the destinies of the State.

A public meeting is too often a bathetical abortion in this country. Public meetings are, however, at this moment, a vital organisation through which the will of the country can be enforced. Public meetings would lead up to a November session, and Parliament would do as it has ever done—do the clearly ascertained will of the nation. A great opportunity for human freedom offers; will Englishmen be wanting?

CONDITIONS OF RUSSIAN SUCCESS.

Russia has on the whole been a decidedly successful empire. Up to the present time all has gone well with her; and she has even the honour of having, in close alliance with the rigours of her climate, beaten the great warrior of the century in a defensive campaign. Fortune has smiled upon her, in giving her rulers with ambition and capacity, and foes of a second order; a territory which no one envies or would care to conquer, and a people as brave as brandy and an instinct of obedience can make them. For long years her frontiers were touched by nations in whose Governments the principle of authority was weakened, and the power of control nearly destroyed—Governments either undergoing some transition, or the prey of contending factions. For long years she had only to contend against Sweden, and Poland, and Turkey, the Tartars, and the Cossacks: Europe looking favourably on her efforts.

While Turkey was yet strong, Turkey beat the first great Russian Emperor in the field; but, alas, did not know how to make the best use of her advantage. The mad warrior-king of Sweden, who did not know when to fight and when to abstain, gave the Russians the first lessons in the art of war. Scotsmen taught them the rudiments of naval warfare; and Frenchmen and Germans continued to improve upon the lessons which Charles XII. had so rudely initiated. Russia stretched her arms in less than a century from the Baltic to the Black Sea, and robbed her neighbours in all directions of their frontier lands. In these latter years she has fought her way through the Caucasus, and floated a steam navy on the waves of the Caspian. She has attained to the dignity of a great European power; kings have humbly waited in her antichambers to take her orders; and philosophers and literati have prophesied that she is the next state in succession to universal empire.

What are the sources of her success? How is it that a semi-barbarous nation, so much of whose power is fictitious, so much of whose prosperity is hollow, enjoys so great a consideration? Is all this prestige duly merited, or has it been hastily accorded, and ably upheld and increased?

Without decrying the deeds of arms which have made the name of Russian soldier respected in Europe, we may venture to say that Russia has never successfully, except in 1812, engaged in wars with any power of the first magnitude, nor with any power in the prime of its vitality. Russia has succeeded in enlarging her boundaries in proportion to the weakness of her victim. At the close of last century, with the aid of Austria and Prussia, she partitioned Poland; but at the close of last century the Porte, weakened as it was by the bad organisation of its armies, was still able to withstand Austria and Russia. Poland was torn by internal faction when she fell; the Porte had never recovered from the shock of her successive defeats on the Danube before Prince Eugene. So the Porte fell farther and farther to the rear, in the race of progress, while Russia came, or seemed to come, more rapidly to the front. At all events, she acquired one great attribute of conquerors—an iron executive possessed of absolute power. As anarchy grew strong in Turkey, a firm despotism grew up in Russia; and although that despotism was based upon cruelty, oppression, corruption, and fraud, it proved, as a matter of course, a better weapon of offence than the equally cruel and corrupt, but altogether impotent, Government of Turkey.

To illustrate our meaning let us take the European and Asian campaigns in 1828 and 1829. Turkey had then fallen under the hands of an energetic and clever sovereign, who, greatly to the alarm of Russia, saw the necessity of adopting European tactics and improvements. But Mahmoud had to clear away so many obstacles before he could begin, that the Greek war of independence, which enlisted sentimental Europe against him, and the destruction of the Janissaries, which spoiled his army, placed him at the mercy of Russia. The Emperor Nicholas, knowing that the European Powers were too fearful of revolution to engage in a general war; that the restored Bourbons had abandoned the traditional policy of France in the "Question d'Orient," and were prepared to barter Turkey for the Rhine; and that the sentimentalists had overpowered the politicians, and had rendered it impossible for them to sustain the cause of the oppressors of those splendid Greeks, entered at once upon a war with Turkey, and seized the supreme moment of her weakness to attempt her destruction. Turkey was much more a

"sick man" then than she now is. She had no army, no commander, no spirit of obedience, not one ally. Threatened in his capital by the fanatic Mussulmans and the Christians, Mahmoud scarcely dared to send his undisciplined armies into the field. Yet, with all these disadvantages, Russia was occupied in two campaigns in reaching Adrianople. The splendid march of Diebitsch was within an ace of proving his destruction, and it was only his utter weakness that prevented him from advancing on Constantinople. In Asia the same spectacle was presented to the world; and the Russians beat the Turks mainly because the Russian Government was strong, the Russian army well-organised and well-commanded, while the Turkish Government was weak, and the Turkish troops, although as brave as lions, were a mere horde. Thus it was that Paskiewitch made a famous march from Tiflis to Trebizond, and conquered a strong frontier for the Russian territory in Armenia and Georgia.

Has it not been so in 1853-54, and for the same reasons? And if the Turks have been less unsuccessful, is it not because their army has been less undisciplined, and their Government less impotent on the frontiers of the empire? There was no Schamyl at the head of the united Circassian tribes in 1828-29; there were no European officers with the Turkish commanders in Asia (Omar Pasha is an Austrian), showing, when deprived of, or declining, European science, as much incapacity then as now. Russia was the well-bound fiasco; Turkey the scattered rods.

When in 1848-49 Europe was in the throes of anarchy, Austria in great peril, and England modified by the peace party, Russia, diligently carrying out her policy, made the most of the situation, and gained power and consideration by intervening in Hungary and occupying the Principalities. Again, in 1850, Austria and Prussia quarrelled over the gallant little Hesse-Cassel, and Russia threw her weight into the contest on the side of Austria. Towards 1853 the Porte showed signs of internal improvement and extended trade. Religious toleration was making rapid progress; the judicial system had undergone important reforms; a sort of representative Government was springing up; and, above all, the army and navy had acquired an efficiency, especially in the artillery arm, ominous for Russian interests. Calculating that Europe would not interfere, the Emperor Nicholas sent his soldiers across the Pruth, and entered on a new war to seize the property of the sick man before his death. It was the old game; but there was a miscalculation.

And what do we see? The results are quite in accordance with history. In Asia, where regular and energetic government does not exist, and where there is neither an army nor a general, Russian discipline carries the day; but it meets with difficulties in proportion to the organisation of its opponents. In Europe, Russia fails altogether, even against the Turks, in partial rencontres; and is compelled to submit to be assailed in her own strongholds. The result is striking.

For something like a century and a half this Northern Power has been encroaching upon Europe. During that period her incursions have been made upon those least able to defend themselves, whether against her intrigues or her arms. Poland, Finland, Turkey, Crim Tartary, the Cossacks, the Circassians, the Persians, have all felt the weight of her power at critical moments of domestic confusion. During that period she has availed herself to the utmost of the well-known forbearance and notorious embarrassments of European Governments to push her interests on all sides, sticking neither at force nor fraud. It was natural that Europe should arrest this constantly aggressive

power: it was natural, although not exactly in the form foreseen by the great Corsican, that Europe should engage in the contest of Cossack against Republican institutions.

The lesson which history, as we read it, teaches to Europe is that nothing but strong and regular Governments can successfully oppose Russia; and it behoves the Western Powers, therefore, to consider, for their own sakes, how far they can act, not only to make Russia know her place, but to set up strong frontier powers—Poland, Hungary, Turkey, Circassia, Scandinavia—to confine her within due bounds when she shall have been driven thither. Unless this be done, France and England will have wasted their strength in vain; and the frontiers of the West will be still disturbed by the unscrupulous conduct of a state which has ever the least to lose and the most to gain in a general war.

SUNDAY EXCURSIONS AND SUNDAY LICENCES.

ALL brief statements must be taken subject to much qualification. "There is," asserts the *Morning Advertiser*, "little drunkenness in our public-houses; in the majority of those houses it is a rare thing to see a drunken man." We are willing to confess that the public-house is not the place to look for the most signal instances of intemperance; perhaps we might look to more private places. Nevertheless, if public-houses are sober, the proprietors are not always the cause of sobriety in others; and from whatever cause, England certainly is not a country celebrated for the rarity of drunkenness. On the contrary; the traveller who comes from some other lands is amazed at so frequently encountering men in various stages of intoxication. In Tuscany, for example, where wine can be bought in every street, and sometimes very good wine too, a drunken man is a real rarity. In this country he is not an unfamiliar object, but then we restrain the sale of intoxicating drinks by licences and other impediments. We infer, therefore, and our inference is supported by other facts besides those cited, that the licence is not the cause of sobriety, and that free-trade in stimulants is not the direct incentive to intoxication.

Open the trade, let any one obtain a licence who can pay for it, argues our contemporary, the *Advertiser*, and drunkenness will be extended broadcast. He refers to Scotland for proof; where, "especially in large towns such as Glasgow, there are some streets in which every third or fourth shop or cellar is appropriated to the sale of intoxicating drinks." "Free-trade in whisky is rapidly transforming the lower classes in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and other large towns north of the Tweed, into a community of drunkards." Unfortunately for this argument, Mr. Duncan McLaren, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, has recently bestowed upon the world an enormous mass of statistics, to show that drunkenness is declining in Scotland. Many who have noted the vice ascribed it to other causes besides free-trade, especially to the absence of harmless stimulants for the people. Deprived of a holiday on the seventh day of amusement—of almost everything that enables life to be tasted once a week with a relish and a zest—the Scotchman flies to the whisky bottle.

Evidence to the same effect has been furnished in this country. One of the reasons why publicans and large numbers of the working-classes are not adverse to closing public-houses on Sunday is, that the greatest numbers of the people are becoming accustomed to spending Sunday otherwise than in the bar parlour. The Select Committee on Public-houses notice this fact. In Man-

chester, the free library, museums, and parks; in Dublin, the Zoological-gardens, at a penny admission; in Yorkshire, the opening of the grounds at Chatsworth, have been found to operate as powerful counter-attractions; and publicans generally have remarked that since the use of excursion-trains, much of their custom has been drained off. Temperance, therefore, may be occasioned by other causes besides strictness of licensing.

The trade no doubt is in arms at the idea of abolishing distinctions between public-houses and beer-shops, as the Select Committee on Public-houses proposed. Alderman Wire, solicitor to the Licensed Victuallers' Association, declares, that in the metropolitan districts alone 6,000,000*l.* of property will be destroyed. "I use the word 'destroyed' advisedly," he declares; a statement perhaps as well founded as that of the coach proprietors, who declared that railways would destroy the habit of travelling in the British people, abolish the race of horses from the island, and sweep away innkeepers. With every fresh extension of British institutions it always has been so. When any trade has grown up under restriction there always has been an assertion that to abolish the restraint would be to destroy the want for which the supply is limited. There are those who say that if the wine trade were thrown open, no more wine would be drunk in this country; because, they argue, the price would fall, and it would not be worth while to import it; present drinkers would be disgusted, new drinkers would not be formed, and the demand would cease: Q.E.D. The fact is, however, that experiences of past relaxations have been in favour of continuing the process. The Beer Act, authorising the sale of beer, without the necessity of taking out a public-house licence, was successful. The last Sale of Beer Bill, intended to pass for the better observance of the Sabbath, while it has given a new sanction to some publicans who did wish to close their public-houses, has done much to destroy one of the chief counteractions to Sunday drinking, especially in the neighbourhood of large towns, by placing difficulties in the way of the excursionist. No doubt magisterial decisions have in many cases softened the effect of the act, and it has been properly discovered that the excursionist to Hampton Court, for example, is a "traveller," and may be furnished with refreshment. But people do not feel the same confidence in a magisterial decision that they do in an act of Parliament; and the attendance of travellers at that particular place, Hampton Court, has undergone a marked decline. Indirectly the last Sale of Beer Act has so far repealed Mr. Hume's reform, by preventing the people from going to Hampton Court, except under the pain of making the journey without refreshment. The alternative of course would be, for the traveller to carry the refreshment in his pocket and eat it on a door step; but English families do not relish that mode of refectory.

Now, without discussing for the present the larger question of throwing open licences entirely, though we incline to agree with the Select Committee, let us deal with this unforeseen effect of the last Beer Act. Of course there was no intention to stop Sunday visiting of Hampton Court; or if such an intention had been avowed it would have been frustrated. The act of Parliament renders the opening of public-houses on that day precarious; the freedom to do so depends upon the chances of magisterial decision. Without re-opening the whole question of Sunday trafficking or licensing, then, let this difficulty be met directly in the teeth. If the act limits anybody, let it at all events be amended by a new act, authorising the issue

of licences upon proper application for opening houses of entertainment on the Sunday, for the special accommodation of excursionists, such as those who visit Hampstead, Hampton Court, Epping Forest, Gravesend, Greenwich, or Richmond. The Sunday licence would rest upon its own grounds; might be made quite a separate affair, and might fairly be bought for a separate fee. But at all events do not let us continue to debar the people of great towns from those rational excursions into the country which have been especially intended for them, by placing a parliamentary prohibition upon refreshments.

VINE CHOLERA AND HUMAN MILDEW.

"The Church in danger!" most assuredly, for "the jolly full bottle" has got the cholera. We are scarcely using a metaphor. The dear black bottle, which gives its name as the designation of the soundest parts of the Church of England, is sick; it has contracted an hereditary disease! The parent vine has been for a few years under the influence of a serious malady, which, in the district of Alto Douro, has affected the plants, probably to the number of 80,000,000, has put in peril of actual destruction property estimated to be worth 4,000,000*l.*, and has teased proprietors and wine dealers with the harassing question of a "remedy." The history of the disease is interesting:—

"The Alto-Douro," says the *Globe*, following a paper by Mr. J. J. Forrester, in the proceedings of the Royal Society, "comprises a tract of very variable elevation; at Baleira, the river runs at an elevation of not more than 250 feet; while the Sierra do Marao attains an elevation of 4500 feet from the level of the sea; the intermediate tract forming a long irregular basin, girt by granite chains, and thus protected from winds that might damage the vine. In 1851 the season was favourable; the vines were vigorous, and produced perfect fruit, and the vintage of that year was excellent. The following year was wet and cold, and a blight appeared on the vines, which were attacked at the rate of about one in every 1500, and the vintage in that year was very inferior. Rain, sleet, hail, and bleak winds, extinguished the spring of 1853, and floods impeded the navigation. In June, however, the sun burst forth with intense vigour, leaving the nights very cold; and again in March, 1854, only half cargoes could be brought down the river Douro for want of water. In the meanwhile, the plants suffered severely; in many places the fruit withered, in others less exposed the grapes grew no larger than peas; while some plants, again, continued to show their accustomed vigour. But it is remarked that even these healthy plants, in most instances, show traces of the disease, even after the fruit was gathered in 1853. The grapes which at first promised abundance of wine were filled with seeds, each berry containing from three to five instead of two or three stones. The quantity and quality were seriously afflicted; whereas 21 baskets of grapes usually produce a pipe of wine, in 1853 that quantity could barely be obtained from thirty baskets; and whereas seven to nine pipes of ordinary wine give a pipe of brandy 20 per cent. above British proof, in 1853 from ten to twelve pipes of ordinary wine were required."

The land where the vine grows was formerly divided into two districts—one in which the best wines of distinct classes were produced, and the other where wines were grown only to a small extent for local consumption and distillation. Now, the two districts have become one; the plantations of pines on the heights, and the corn-producing valleys, having alike been converted into vineyards. In other words, human avarice has forced the vine to grow, not only, as it often does, by the side of the more northern wheat, but by the side of the pine-tree, to whose soil and climate it is alien and repugnant. The vine has been forced against nature, not encouraged according to nature; and after that fact, we see growing up within three short years a disease that threatens to destroy the plant. It seems to originate with the unhealthy plants, and thence to be communicated to the healthy class. It is a sporadic disease.

It evidently resembles in its nature the disease of the potato plant; and it is a question even more important for some classes of the English people than the port-wine question, whether the potato disease may not have been produced in the same way? We had potatoes, and they flourished in the land: we forced them to grow on unsuited soils, content to increase the quantity at the expense of quality; and a disease springs up which threatens to destroy strong as well as weakly. Is this a "judgment" on men for attempting to overrule the laws of nature?

The disease which afflicts the vine, like that of the potato, appears, according to very probable conjecture, to resemble the great man disease of the present day—the cholera. According to "the Fungoid theory" of microscopical inquirers, man, like the potato he eats and the wine he drinks, is dying of a mildew. How far is this also to a judgment? We force numbers to live in crowded neighbourhoods, which even if they were uncrowded would be wrong abodes for men; and have we thus engendered a disease which spreads even to the healthy quarters—which, engendered in St. Giles's, invades St. James's, and carries off a Jocelyn as well as the anonymous thousands?

LORD DERBY'S "SCIENCE"

A RELATIVE of Lord Derby recently said, "What a wonderful man my — would be if he were not so frightfully ignorant!" Lord Derby confirms that impression of him among his family, who should know him best, by remarking, at Liverpool, this week, that he was educated in the pre-scientific period, and is, therefore, totally ignorant of "science." Lord Derby is not ashamed of his ignorance. The Tambov story would have ruined any other public man; Lord Derby was the first to suggest "How the deuce should I know Tambov wasn't a port?" He was educated in the pre-geographical period, too. His notion, evidently is, that men should not be expected to keep their knowledge abreast of their time. The English Peerage generally is the most ignorant class in Europe; or Lord Derby would not have become premier peer. He is premier peer because he is so remarkably "smart"—making up for astounding ignorance.

But Lord Derby should qualify his confession, as an ignoramus, by a reference to that notorious fact. He did not define "science;" while it is well known that he is remarkably scientific—in his way—as a sportsman and a politician.

At Doncaster, last week, the course beheld the singular spectacle of a great jockey getting mauled instead of caressed as he walked his winning horse from the post to the stable. Why? He had sold, said the mob, one race to win this—he had sold the St. Leger cup to "bag" this third-rate handicapper stakes. He was Lord Derby's jockey; and the reporter who chronicles the scene observes with fine irony—"The public indignation was so intense that it was very fortunate Lord Derby had left the town." Lord Derby had started by train to meet the men of science at Liverpool.

We disdain the malignity which suggests that Lord Derby was particeps of the "sell" with his jockey. Lord Derby is chivalrous on the turf as on the floor of the House of Lords. But we may remark without offence the singular similarity of Derbyism on the turf and Derbyism on politics. Scott, the jockey, or trainer, is a Major Beresford—a Stafford—a Forbes Mackenzie—in short, a Derbyite. We do not for a moment imagine that Scott could "sell" a race; mobbed at Doncaster, he was just as much the victim of a Coalition as

was Beresford when he was kicked out of the War-office, as was Stafford when he trembled before a Committee of Inquiry, as was Mackenzie when ousted from his seat for Liverpool. These different gentlemen were, like Mr. Scott, unfortunate: misunderstood, they were suspected—but wrongly. Of this they have given the most sacred private assurances.

Yet, unfortunate Lord Derby!—so chivalrous! yet served by jockeys so suspected! Ye shall know a man by his acquaintance, says the proverb of the pre-scientific period; but if the proverb were good for anything, interpreted in a scientific period, it might be varied in this way: Ye shall know the acquaintance by the man. According to the proverb, Lord Derby would be a Derbyite; but the reduction of the proverb is this—that all the Derbyites are chivalrous; which is absurd.

When Mr. Disraeli, riding Protection, won Office, he escaped the fate of his colleague Scott—only Newdegate, and Butt, and one or two more, mobbed him; it happened to be the "interest" of the general crowd that he should sell the agricultural stakes. But in all these instances the Derby tactic is identical, we should be careful how we bet in Tory politics at present. Lord Derby has entered the horse "Protestant," with Mr. Disraeli's colours—shot silk—for the next Parliamentary races;—there can be no doubt about that fact. We wonder what is the real aim?

SHEFFIELD—ITS TOWN COUNCIL AND ITS POLITICS.

ACCIDENT gave me ten days' leisure in Sheffield, and curiosity induced me to devote it to the Town Council. The Council Chamber, decorated somewhat in the style of the Pompeian House at the Crystal Palace, possesses bountiful accommodation for visitors and auditors, and is an agreeable interior. The Council, an animated and pungent body, occupy one end of the Chamber, and administer local affairs and animadvert on each other with an energy peculiar to Sheffield.

On this day a refractory Councillor had given notice of motion on the conduct of the magistrates, in having refused the lessee of the theatre her license because she had let it to a gentleman from Ohio, who had delivered certain lectures considered by the Bench not up to the magisterial standard of orthodoxy. Mr. Alderman Dunn, a rollicking, unctuous species of political pedagogue—one of those cacchinatory saints who, if he roared you at all would roast you with a guffaw—openly declared on the Bench that the license could not be granted because the theatre had been let to Mr. Joseph Barker, the heretical lecturer from Ohio. Whereupon Mr. Isaac Ironside, the aforesaid refractory Councillor, gives notice of motion of censure upon the Bench. Between the period of giving notice and debating the said motion, the Bench—as Aberdeen did lately by Layard—forestall the Councillor—the Bench redecide Mrs. Scott's case (that is, the case of the lady who is lessee of the theatre) upon new grounds; they find her son, the manager's, conduct defective in secular particulars—the religious reason is thrown over—Mr. Alderman Dunn is instructed to take the leek in public, which he does, and declares that he merely spoke his own individual opinion—not that of the Bench. This was some atonement to public opinion and right principle, but the discussion in Council proceeded nevertheless.

The mover of the motion indulged his colleagues with facts of persecution beginning with the Epistle to the Hebrews—taking Wickliff on the way—and then coming down to the motion. The Mayor very naturally thought this unnecessary, but his mode of saying so was a no less astonishing digression from the record of official dignity. With looks of contempt and words of intense irritation, he charged the speaker with concealing the later decision of the Bench. He, the Mayor, ruled, and very properly, that the Epistle to the Hebrews and Wickliff might be dispensed with, but added, "You know very well

you have suppressed the truth," this was said in the midst of the Councillor's speech. The Councillor, however, remained unmoved and undiverted, and persisted in his speech until he had established his point, viz., that the attempt to refuse a Theatrical license because of certain speculative sentiments uttered in the Theatre, was unmagisterial and intolerant. Mr. Councillor Beal, in a pertinent speech, explained that which needs to be explained to magistrates in many other towns—viz., that the Law gives the Magistracy power to adjudicate upon the civil conduct of Lessees and Publicans, but not to hold inquest upon, or take cognisance of, their religious opinions. This were to place every man's conscience at the mercy of the Bench. Mr. Beal reprobated the double want both of courage and liberality in attempting to strike at the opinions of Mr. Barker through the lessee of the theatre. Then followed an internecine war of words. Councillor Oates said, "that as the mover of the resolution had had an opportunity of making a speech, which he could see in print, he had better let the motion drop." This gross imputation was unchecked by the Mayor, and indeed this kind of thing seemed a characteristic of this local legislature. A dense old gentleman, one Councillor Scholesfield, a reformed Wesleyan, in whom the growth of reformation must have been checked in an untimely manner, spoke on behalf of the magistrates in ponderous firstlies, secondlies, and thirdlies. Mr. Francis Hoole, the Mayor, called his opaque friend to order, but in this case he was courteous to a turn. Alderman Golly, who showed efficiency above others, and might have defended the Bench, contented himself by the absurd suggestion that the Council had no right to an opinion on the subject. The feeble benchers rode off on this and Rosinante. Mr. Magistrate Dunn took occasion to declare his respectful opinion of the Council, by saying that for himself he did not care what they thought of him. This mutual contempt for each other was the leading and painful demonstration of the debate. The Mayor indulged the Council with a similar opinion, and Mr. Magistrate Dunn gave the lie direct twice to an objecting Councillor, after the manner of the back-woods' Parliaments of America. The mover of the resolution offered, that since it had been professed by the magistrates that Mrs. Scott's license had not been refused on religious grounds, he would withdraw the motion, provided the Mayor declared the opinion of the Bench to be that letting the theatre to an heretical lecturer was not a sufficient ground for refusing a license. This was boisterously declined, and on putting the motion the Mayor pleaded his own case, not only with want of dignity, but in this extraordinary language:—"I accuse the mover of this resolution with want of candour and want of truth." To this kind of language the etiquette of society prescribes but one mode of response. If you are strong, you knock your opponent down—if weak, you kick him—if a gentleman, you send your card by a friend, and appoint a place of meeting. That an English gentleman—a chief magistrate of a borough sending two members to Parliament—should conduct himself in this United-States style will be incredible to those who cannot visit Sheffield on a Wednesday. In America such a debate would have been diversified by bowie-knives. In the days when Sheffield wore fustian jackets, it would have ended in a stand-up fight—but Kerseymere and West Saxony, timorous of rents and tearings, are more decorous. Kerseymere and West Saxony are great Moralists! The motion and the debate was complicated and not carried, but as the act of interference with opinion was disowned by the Bench, the practical point was gained.

Sheffield is fond of self-government, and its Town Council is the most active and radical in the kingdom. Its more popular members have, indeed, the vice of all young corporate bodies—the vice of too much speaking. But it deserves to be recorded that the chief of them manifest one point of discipline, as laudable as it is rare. Few of the ebullitions of the Bench were retorted. However despotically the mover put any speaker down, the speaker submitted. "He is our own officer," said one of the councillors to the writer. "We appoint him, and we will obey him, right or wrong; and if we do not like him we can elect a better when the time comes. If we retort, the opponents of self-government will say we wrangle; therefore, we contest and submit." This is the spirit which does honour to self-government, and which would have saved Republican France had it learned

this wise lesson. It is a lesson, however, which the Councillors of Sheffield have not yet thoroughly by heart, it must be admitted.

For the advocacy of theoretical rights which have so long occupied the heads and diverted the energies of the people, Sheffield has substituted the attainment of local power and influence. The radicals get votes—appoint radical councillors—cliques are exploded—local rights are not merely agitated, they are assumed. The effectiveness of the new over the old mode is evident from the opinion formed by competent judges—the old governing Stand-stillians, who say, "We don't mind chartism, we can frustrate that when it does not frustrate itself; but radicals coming and seating themselves by our side at councils and boards, with equal power and active will—we don't like this."

Sheffield reminds you of what Lord Dudley Stuart said of the Red Monarchies, viz., that we had more to fear from them than from the Red Republicans; but there is far less subordination among the higher than among the lower classes. Mr. Hadfield, the member, found himself insulted at the late Cutlers' feast by the Parker-Whigs. The present writer is not one who would have voted for Mr. Hadfield—but even the democratic principle dictates that he should be treated with deference when elected. Whiggism should not be more anarchical than Democracy. The present Mayor refused to accept the invitation of the Master Cutler a week ago, to the Cutlers' Feast, because invited as "Francis Hoole, Esquire," and not as the Mayor of Sheffield. Yet his punctilious Worship presides over the Town Council in a far lower tone than that taken by the President of any Working Man's Assembly.

The art of Cutlery is far more advanced in Sheffield than the art of Manners. The town is full of feuds. No party tries to convince—each aims to be at and to damage the other. The whole town is akimbo. Every man has his elbows in his neighbour's side, which produces a permanent state of ecstasies and vituperations. This, after all, is not so bad. It implies life, activity, pluck. It is transition—but it will lead to something. As one said who had witnessed the strife of the New World and the petrification of the Old, "I prefer any ebullition to the corruption of apathy and despotism." When Sheffield adds good taste to good sense, and good feeling to public spirit, it may be the most exemplary of English towns.

IOX.

VENTILATION VERSUS CHOLERA.

THE question of ventilation, in connexion with cholera, does not appear to have been sufficiently considered. Cholera is said "not to obey any uniform law;" and is spoken of as a "mysterious disease," breaking out in one country amidst the heats of summer, whilst in another country it rages with greatest violence in mid-winter. In some towns the largest mortality is in crowded cellar dwellings; in other towns, in rooms above the ground-floor, and greatest in the attics. Swamps, rivers, low elevations, the absence of sewers, the presence of sewers, no water, impure water, heat, electricity, have each been said to propagate, if not to generate, cholera in excess. Stratifications have been blamed, and theories without end have been propounded, none of which are satisfactory. Nor will any theory ever satisfy. Beyond all question of a doubt, a concurrence of circumstances is required to produce cholera. And the prime necessity is human beings. The theorists overlook this condition, and go beating about after causes which are secondary, and must be contingents. Mass human beings, either in towns or in armies, either in winter or summer, heat or cold, during the prevalence of an epidemic atmosphere, and you must have cholera; not because of this river, that stratification, bad water, winter, summer, no sewers, disturbed electric action, animalcules, floating fungoid, and the thousand and one other contingent phenomena, but simply because there are human beings capable of receiving the seeds of the disease, and of generating it. Bad water is a bad thing, but alone it does not produce cholera. Low and damp situations are unwholesome, but these conditions do not necessarily produce this fatal disease in excess, and so on of any single set of conditions or phenomena. Take the following formulæ as about the nearest guess present knowledge will enable us to make on this subject:

First, catch your people, crowd them in a limited area—mud, gravel, limestone, sandstone, or granite,—under canvas in a barren country, or in quarters in villages and towns—in a city on the banks of a river, or midland and on a plain—in ground floors and cellars, as at Liverpool, or in attics as at Glas-

gow—in narrow streets and lanes, *chares*, and room tenements, as at Newcastle-upon-Tyne—on or near a ship, mercantile or naval, in the middle of the ocean—the food of cholera is provided in the people. To develop the disease, overcrowd, cause the confined atmosphere to be breathed and re-breathed, until it is lung-tainted so as to be a poison; then, as your subjects may be more or less fitted from other causes to receive and develop the disease, so will it rage, mildly or virulently. Bad food, bad water, intemperance, depraved and sensual indulgence of any kind, overfeeding, excessive fatigue, with long exposure, fear, and that mysterious influence, sympathy, in fact, any cause which weakens the vital functions, fits the patient to receive and to develop cholera. To give returns of the numbers of deaths in proportion to elevation, without giving the area covered and the character and habits of the relative populations, only misleads. Remove the inhabitants on either side of the Thames "below the 10 feet level," and carry their dwellings (small rooms and crowded houses) to the top of Highgate, the results would be little if at all modified. It is of the utmost importance this fact should not be lost sight of. Cholera is true to no single set of phenomena, but if a catalogue of the conditions necessary to its production were drawn out, it would commence:

1. Human beings, in mass.
2. An epidemic atmosphere.
3. Overcrowding without ventilation.

The theorist may now arrange all the minor causes to his fancy. Examine the seats of cholera from Land's End to John O'Groats, and disease will ever be found most rife amidst masses of people of depraved habits, living in small rooms without adequate ventilation. Neither low-level, nor elevation—no sewers, imperfect sewers, no water, bad water, not even good water—appeared to have much to do with the disease; it seemed to pick out the worst livers from the worst places.

Having attempted to show how cholera is propagated, it may be useful to show how it may be lessened, if not prevented. Where practicable, thin the population; in an army separate the tents; but, above all, place fewer men under each tent. Only allow half or one third the usual numbers to sleep at one time, and strike the tent and totally change the atmosphere with each change or relief of occupants. Better and safer to expose the men to the inconvenience and inclemencies of the weather than to air foul and confined. On board ship the same rules should be adopted. Reduce overcrowding, and promote ventilation by all possible means. The disinfecting or deodorising fluids and gases should be provided, and should be judiciously used. The commissariat should not neglect this. A few scores of gallons of chloride of lime or zinc at Varna might have saved hundreds of lives. The motto should be—ventilation, ventilation, ventilation. Any means which will furnish pure air, or promote change of air should be adopted at all times, at all seasons, in all places, and under all conditions.

There have been many complaints as to the sewers in the metropolis—the large foul sewers of deposit—and many suggestions have been given as to trapping them. This would be the most fatal mistake which could be made. If one gully-hole or ventilating grate gives out foul gas do not stop it; but, if possible, make more. Decomposition is not stopped, nor is foul gas destroyed, by trapping gully-grates and closing ventilating shafts. Sulphuretted hydrogen gas, being lighter than common air, rises out at the weakest point: prevent its escape into the streets and it will be forced into the houses. Surely it is better externally than internally? If the commissioners of sewers would expend some of their money in erecting ventilating shafts, they would do more good than in constructing Victoria-street sewers. The property of gas is to diffuse equally through the air. The dilution, with equal diffusion, would be at the cube of the elevation at which it is delivered: that is, gas delivered at the surface of the street being (one) at an elevation of ten feet, would be reduced, at the distance of ten feet on each side, to one thousand, or it would be diluted as one thousand to one. Do not ask the commissioners of sewers to close ventilating grates, but compel them to construct ventilating shafts. To do this would be to save human life.

EDILE.

Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, ON ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

A "FAMILY BIBLE" PROPOSED.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sept. 13.

SIR,—As a companion to the question of Liturgical reform which is now in agitation amongst churchmen of the Establishment, that of Biblical revision has been started. That this is a point involving consequences more important than are immediately apparent, a very little consideration must render clear, and I can easily imagine there are many persons who will think it too delicate and hazardous a matter of controversy for the columns of a general newspaper. However, I happen to think otherwise, and possibly you may not object to have the subject now introduced to the readers of the *Leader*. My wish is to promote a useful discussion thereon, and I have been led to this by the perusal of a letter signed "Pater Filium" in the *Clerical Journal* of September the 8th. The Father of Daughters writes to the editor in the following strain: "Speaking of translations of the Holy Bible," says he, "if any other than the one now in use is performed it would be wise, I conceive, to omit, or leave untranslated, or give a more modest rendering to many passages which occur even in the Sunday Lessons, and to many more which in private study cannot escape notice. As a specimen of what I mean, I would refer to the First Lesson, P.M., for twelfth Sunday after Trinity, and would ask whether a more edifying rendering could not be given of verse 27? But your readers will easily recollect others of an equally unreadable kind; and I, for one, would hail the publication of an edition of the Holy Bible adapted to family use, and to the public service of the Church." In these sentiments I am confident all modest and sensitive minds will concur. Whatever opinions may be held touching the character and extent of the divine inspiration of the Scriptures, few rational Christians will deny that there are some portions at least of the Word of God which might be obliterated without detriment to the temporal interests or eternal welfare either of the rising, or the risen, generation. "Pater Filium" appears to be a conscientious churchman, but he has nevertheless the candour and courage to admit that the Bible contains much that is "unreadable," much that is hurtful to private morality, much that is at variance with public decency. He instances a verse in the 18th chapter of the 2nd Book of Kings—a verse which no clergyman can feel comfortable in reading aloud before a mixed congregation, and which no father or mother would suffer to pass the lips in the course of family devotions. Many clergymen skip over these kind of passages when they occur in the lessons, but this plan has usually a worse effect on the congregation than if they were read out boldly, and without a faltering voice, for the "skipping" is, in most cases, done in a confused and ungraceful manner. To expunge such parts of Scripture is quite practicable, if a new "authorised version" were to be prepared. The inconsistency of those parents and guardians, schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, who object to allow young people to read any but a strictly "Family Shakespeare," and yet readily permit the "young idea" to "search" the present edition of the Holy Bible and study its details *ad libitum*, would indeed be surprising if we did not know how often old religious prejudices pervert the reason and corrupt the moral judgment. For my own part I would infinitely rather allow a child to read the entire works of Shakespeare, than give it free access to the pages of the existing Bible. It is with no feeling of hostility to that most wonderful of books that I assert this, but from a profound conviction that more obscene conversation and impure thoughts are suggested to the youths of both sexes by the Old Testament, than by any other volume that falls into their hands. Hence it would be advisable that a new translation of some parts of the Hebrew Scriptures should be made, and that the publication of a purified edition should be sanctioned by authority, not simply for private and scholastic purposes, but for the purposes of public worship in our churches and chapels. I foresee a multitude of objections that will be offered against this proposal, and doubtless there are numerous difficulties in the path of this, as in that of every other reform; still I believe the objections are not unanswerable, or the difficulties insurmountable.

Yours, &c.,

ZETA.

CZARISM AND THE WAR.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

London, Sept. 14.

SIR,—As soon as the war was declared, foreign goods rose in price in Russia; a sycophant poet wrote, "Russia doesn't want them; as for steel pens, we have plenty of geese; instead of champagne we may substitute our own gin, and drink the health of the Czar with it; and as to railways, our horses will do." There are, indeed, plenty of geese even in the Russian cabinet; gin may serve for the health of Nicholas well enough, but for railways there is no substitute. As rails were needed, the Czar ordered some to be made at home; but they came in at 2 r. 40 cop., silver, a pood (40 lb.), whilst the English cost only 75 cop. a pood, and the former broke in pieces the first time they were used. The railway from Petersburg to Moscow is magnificent, but is very badly managed. The Emperor travels that distance on it in nine hours, his family in 15, the public in 22 hours, and goods in two days. The Czar, being a celestial being, always does what he does with more haste, but not better for that. There is in each train a smoking carriage, in which they may play cards too. General Khrustchhoff once gained 700 r.s., and broke one of the panes in the window. One of the conductors said to him, "Your Excellency, I have only 40 r. s. for my salary, and the pane costs 12 r.; if you don't pay I shall have to pay."

"How do you dare to speak with me in this way," answered the general; "don't you know that I can make you run the gauntlet?"

It is generally thought, in Petersburg, that an Englishman, having some time before the war obtained permission to establish an ice warehouse at Cronstadt, made plans of the fortress. I can assure you positively the pretended enthusiasm for the war never existed in Russia. When the first call was made on the disbanded soldiers to re-enter the army, very few old volunteers presented themselves; then came an order, and they were compelled to take up arms. The peasants of Petersburg are taught to say that they will liberate St. Sophie, who is till now kept a prisoner in Constantinople, but the peasants of the interior neither speak nor think. Now the nobility don't sell their corn, no business is done at the exchange, the dissatisfaction is great, and a revolution is not impossible. There is not a single criminal court, and there is not a day in each province (government), where there are not one or two cases every day of masters or managers being killed or maltreated by the serfs. The heretics are beginning a political opposition; their drawings of the final judgment represent Nicholas as the Antichrist, Nesselrode and Kleinmichel as damned spirits. Literally no one is any more allowed to think in Russia. The *Moscow* review having spoken in high terms of the late freedom of Novogorod, received an *advice* not to speak of the past. A certain Popovizky has had his portrait painted with this motto: "Happy the man who is allowed to wear mustaches." The portrait was seized, and the original shaved! The noblemen are treated by the Czar with the greatest contempt. Prince Gagarin, having, on account of illness, solicited permission to travel, the Emperor wrote on his petition, "You are as healthy as a bull, man rather your estates better." Prince Serge Trubetzkoi is obliged to sweep the snow from the roof of the barracks, thanks to the intrigues of M. Kisselef, the lover of his wife, and formerly Russian minister in Paris. Prince Kurakin, colonel of the "chevalier guards," was on guard when a fire broke out; and the Emperor arriving at the place of the disaster, "What news?" said he to the Prince.

"All is right," answered he, according to rule.

"You are a stupid fellow, replied the Czar, alluding to the fire.

"I hear, your Imperial Majesty."

"Bah! a true Kurakin, that you are," cried the Czar, spitting out. But when any officer speaks to him in any way contrary to rule, he punishes him. One of his aides-de-camp was dismissed the court service for speaking to him with gesticulation.

All these grounds of dissatisfaction will not be turned to advantage by the allies, who know little of them, or don't know how to benefit by them. The seizure of Finnish boats, and latterly the sinking of two ships laden with building materials belonging to Baron Korf, in the port of Windau, furnish the Russian government with means for exciting the indignation of the aborigines against those who profess to make war with the Czar, and yet invade private property.

It is positive truth that not a single fact could be related honorable to Nicholas. The Secretary of State for Poland, Turkul, used however to narrate the following anecdote, as an instance of the Czar's sense of justice, but I should like to know whether the civilised world would look on it with the same eyes. The Neva was just beginning to be frozen over, and a festival presented a great assemblage of Russian nobilities on the banks of the river. A peasant began to cross it, a very fine looking fellow, and every one wished him success in the bold attempt. When he had accomplished one third of the

task, the danger was really great, as well as was the anxiety of the spectators. He succeeded, and cheer followed him, but the Czar learning that he had done it for a wager of 5 rubel assignats (4s.), ordered them to give him one hundred blows with the stick, saying that if he had done it for so little he was capable of committing any crime for money, and was a dangerous fellow! Yet not a single arm is raised against so great a tyrant!

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

The Author of "The Nations of Russia and Turkey, and their Destiny."

SCOTTISH HAND-LOOM WEAVERS' EMIGRATION MOVEMENT.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Having been desired to furnish some information to the readers of the *Leader*, regarding the above movement, I cheerfully comply with the desire, and proceed to do so.

The weavers of Scotland have repeatedly, and at various times, by the aid of union combinations of the trade, endeavoured to raise the price of their labour, and preserve it when up from returning downwards. The cases are few and far between, in which their efforts were crowned with success. Their continual failures spread a "damp" amongst the trade generally, and were the direct cause of a withering influence springing up, which has had the effect of putting a check upon the effective working out of any scheme for their social and intellectual elevation. A little reflection upon the antagonistic circumstances, and a slight knowledge of commercial laws, would have dissipated any such disheartening influences, and engendered a healthier state of being and mode of action. Steam competition "created" to many of us, and so we have become a pauperised trade, a drag upon the community, and a burden to ourselves. The question has been asked by many, and often by ourselves, was there no other thing to which we could betake ourselves; so way we could be lifted out of the slough of despair and starvation in which we are sunk? Emigration has been suggested as a relief; and, to it of late we have instinctively pointed. That it would be beneficial for us, and other trades similarly circumstanced, is true beyond a doubt. It must, however, be admitted that weavers are slow to convince, and when convinced, rather unwilling to act. I believe the cause of this is, the impossibility of emigrating upon their own resources. Also the length of time which must of necessity elapse before any permanent and substantial advantage would accrue to them. Add to these the difficulties of emigration from the time you leave Britain until you land in your new home, along with some other things of minor importance, and you will readily account for their feelings of apathy and indifference.

Notwithstanding, however, all I have enumerated there prevails a strong desire for, and a warm feeling in favour of emigration, among great bodies of us. This is shown chiefly by the younger portion of the trade. Many are also willing to assist in any way they can, who are either too old to emigrate, or unwilling to leave their native land. These parties, wishing to improve themselves, physically and mentally, want more congenial means to enable them to do so. These means being beyond their reach at home, they are willing to go abroad to find them.

With this view, the weavers favourable to emigration have laid the foundation of a "Handloom Weavers' Emigration Association," and have inaugurated a new, and successful, they hope, emigration agitation. This step was taken at a conference of delegates, held in Glasgow on the 31st ult.

A central board is to sit in Glasgow upon the last Saturday of every month. The "central board" to be composed of delegates from weaving districts in Scotland. Every district may send a representative. The object of this board is, in the mean time, to agitate for weavers to be put upon a level with the labourers and other artisans emigrating to Australia through the "Colonial, Land, and Emigration Commissioners." Every district is to be urged to form a local emigration society, and to affiliate themselves upon the central board, by putting themselves into communication with the central secretary, and sending a delegate to the meetings of the board, to consult upon questions of action and general importance. Some districts have already formed societies. Others have had societies in being. You will perceive that we are in quite an infantile state; but we are organising and moving forward. *Festina lente*, slow but sure. By next week I will have something to show more particularly concerning the association. This will be regarding numbers, how we hope to effect our object, and our hopes and plans of action generally. In the meantime, any party desiring any information regarding us, or our movement, will receive the same by applying to me.

HUGH MITCHELL.

Secretary to the Handloom Weavers' Emigration Association of Scotland.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review.*

Our last small fragments of literary news have all been exhausted. We have not a single paragraph—not even a sentence left—to offer to our readers. In this lamentable emergency, we venture to ask their indulgence for a substitute for our usual summary of news about books and authors, in the shape of a letter from an esteemed lady correspondent which reached us a day or two since. The letter will be found to refer to a subject of some literary and critical importance to the reading-public in general; and on that account we think that it may with perfect propriety be introduced in this part of our columns. We print it without altering a word—suppressing the signature, however, by the amiable writer's own desire:—

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I and my daughters live in retirement at Mulberry Wick (a place you have no doubt heard of). We have a railway-station near, a healthy gravel soil, an excellent clergyman, and the best society—but that is not exactly what I want to write about now. It is a literary difficulty, if you please, which I am sure, with your gallantry (excuse the apparent familiarity of the phrase), and your wonderful knowledge of books, and critics, and all that, you will be most happy to help us out of.

I and my daughters are very fond of reading—especially novels. We look into the advertisements of new books in the papers, and read the opinions of the press tacked on to them, and order at the library accordingly. Our great difficulty is, that, according to the opinions of the press, every new novel seems to be thought more perfect than the one going before it. There does not appear, according to the opinions of the press, to be such a thing as a bad, or even an indifferent, novel ever written now, by anybody—and yet I and my daughters (and a great many highly intelligent people, friends of ours, besides) have read, within the last two or three months, a great many books which seemed to us—to speak strongly—shocking trash. For instance, the other day we saw in the Times this advertisement:—

PULSATIONS.

A Novel.

BY THE AUTHORESS OF "HEART-STRINGS."

- "This novel is the work of a very superior intellect."—*Standard.*
- "A tale of unbounded interest."—*Messenger.*
- "Exquisite with vigorous thought."—*Sunday Times.*
- "PULSATIONS will sustain the brilliant reputation of the authoress of HEARTSTRINGS."—*Atlas.*
- "The reader is fascinated by the rich and powerful exhibition of human character."—*John Bull.*
- "Impossible to lay this thrilling story down."—*Athenaeum* (Boston).

Well, sir, being told in this way by the press what a beautiful book *Pulsations* was, of course we got it; and when we got it we could none of us read it through. My husband, who took the book up, and who does not mind setting himself in opposition to the press, said the authoress of *Pulsations* "wanted a good stick across her back." I thought it was shocking stuff; so did my daughters; so did our neighbours, who tried it after us—and yet here are the clever gentlemen who write for the papers fascinated by it, and finding it "replete with vigorous thought," and so forth!

It appears to be just the same with other kinds of literature, which bitter experience makes us afraid to try, because the gentlemen of the press (as quoted in the advertisements) seem to be so rapturously excited about them. "Have you a *Sent au Church*?" by the Rev. JOHN BORRIS, D.D., Author of *Why do you not in Sermon-time* &c., &c., has a tail of quotations from the religious journals in its praise, which is too long to fit into my present piece of newspaper. As for the new Spasmodic Tragedy (as I hear they call it in London), "*Death-Screes and the Stars*," by W. RANDOLPH DOBBS, it seems to have "drilled" one critical gentleman (who says that "Dobbs is a true poet"), and "enchanted" another (who says that "Death-Screes" are brimful of burning thoughts), and "astonished" a third, and so forth, until we really dare not order the poem, from a fear that we should only expose our own ignorant incapability of judging like the critics, by finding "Death-Screes" (to use one of my husband's phrases again) nothing but—Bosh.

Pray, sir, oblige us with a word or two of explanation and advice on this very distressing subject. Are we all fools who are incapable of knowing a good book from a bad one? Or are the critical gentlemen so inveterately good-natured, as a class, that they cannot find it in their hearts to say a word against any book, however bad it may be? Also please tell us, if you can, what guide we are to take next to teach us how to choose the best works only among the new publications—for we are all at sea now, in consequence of the opinions of the press. I don't want my name published; but, supposing you have not time to answer my letter, if you were to print it, perhaps somebody else might. I am afraid I express myself in rather a confused way—but I can't explain more clearly, for my husband is shouting for his tea, and I have got to the bottom of my paper.

Our amiable correspondent—who expresses, as we believe, the opinions of many other readers of her class—may be easily and briefly answered. She and her family need not distrust their own capacities, and need not by any means imagine that the critics, as a class, are at all overburdened with good nature. The solution of the difficulty which has perplexed her is simple enough,—the opinions of the press are not always quoted correctly in the advertisements. The little errors thus committed, it must be understood, only occur when the review of the book advertised is unfavourable to it. Then it happens, by a remarkable coincidence which we will not attempt to explain just now, that the slight mistake (accidentally made, of course) is always of such a nature as to convey an impression of the critic's opinion exactly the opposite of the impression which he wishes to convey himself. Belonging ourselves to that rare and superior order of gentlemen of the press who are really overburdened with good-nature, we will refrain, for the present at least, from expressing ourselves as fully as we might on this subject. We prefer giving our correspondent one word of advice instead.

Let her, instead of paying attention to those opinions of the press which are advertised, pay attention to the opinions of the press which are fairly printed in their proper places in the newspapers, from the manuscripts of the contributors—especially when these said opinions are followed by extracts which enable her to judge for herself before she ventures on buying or borrowing any new book. Fallible as the critics are, she will not read a tenth part of the trash then that she is deluded into reading now—while she may at the same time claim the merit of helping to discountenance and destroy a mischievous and dishonourable system of puffing which lowers the character of the good books, and is of no real use to help the false pretensions of the bad.

A NEW TRAVELLER IN AFRICA.

Life and Landscapes from Egypt to the Negro Kingdoms of the White Nile. By Bayard Taylor. Sampson Low and Co.

WE have a kindness for all African adventurers for Bruce's sake. Every man who travels towards Central Africa in these modern days, and prints an account of his travels, recalls to us, by associations more or less vivid, the delightful time when we first read Bruce in a sunny corner of the playground, and when a new world and a new race of human beings seemed to be disclosed to us. As we opened Mr. Taylor's book, and looked at the map and the table of contents, the strange people who once delighted and amazed us in the narrative of the first Abyssinian traveller—the lovely Ozoro Esther, the fierce and crafty Ras Michael, Bruce himself in his wandering character of "Yacoub the white man"—seemed to live and breathe in our memory again; and we secretly resolved that even if the new book did happen to be a bad one, we would still deal gently and forbearingly with it, because it had reminded us of Bruce.

Half an hour's attention, however, to Mr. Taylor's pages was enough to show that he stood in no need of any special indulgence, even from the severest critics. One or two not very heinous faults of taste, a little too much of the American freedom of style, and an occasional diffuseness in passages of his narrative which had been better if treated briefly, or better still if not touched at all, are the only defects with which we can charge him as a writer of travels. His merits are palpable enough to speak for themselves to most readers of any intelligence. In many places he writes eloquently, easily, and with a vivid feeling for the picturesque; he has a lively sense of humour and does not indulge it too much; and, best of all, he can feel sincere enthusiasm for the beautiful in Nature and Art, and is not ashamed to own it. In these days of flippant and foolish travel-writing, a traveller who has in him a capacity for hearty admiration, and who possesses sense enough to express it honestly, is sure to be received as a welcome guest, on that account alone irrespective of all other considerations, at our library table.

Mr. Taylor's journey begins on the Nile, which he ascends to the Cataracts, noticing the different places of interest on the banks of the river as he passes them in his boat. He proceeds by the Nubian Desert and the White Nile to Khartoum, penetrates to the populous negro kingdom of the "Shillooks," and there, having reached a point of Central Africa beyond which modern explorers have hitherto failed to penetrate, unwillingly turns his back on the mysteries and dangers of the unknown regions, and sets his face again towards civilisation and the north. We have marked many passages for extract—more, we fear, than there will be space to insert—as specimens of the varied narrative, always readable and often interesting, of Mr. Taylor's journey. The first sample we will present to the reader is an excellent and graphic description of

BOAT LIFE ON THE NILE.

"In the first place, we are as independent of all organised governments as a ship on the open sea. (The Arabs call the Nile *El bahr*, 'the sea.') We are on board our own chartered vessel, which must go where we list, the captain and sailors being strictly bound to obey us. We sail under national colours, make our own laws for the time being, are ourselves the only censors over our speech and conduct, and shall have no communication with the authorities on shore, unless our subjects rebel. Of this we have no fear, for we commenced by maintaining strict discipline, and as we make no unreasonable demands, are always cheerfully obeyed. Indeed, the most complete harmony exists between the rulers and the ruled, and though our government is the purest form of despotism, we flatter ourselves that it is better managed than that of the Model Republic.

"Our territory, to be sure, is not very extensive. The Cleopatra is a *dahabigal*, seventy feet long by ten broad. She has two short masts in the bow and stern, the first upholding the *trinket*, a lateen sail nearly seventy feet in length. The latter carries the *bedikés*, a small sail, and the American colours. The narrow space around the foremast belongs to the crew, who cook their meals in a small brick furnace, and sit on the gunwale, beating a drum and tambourine, and singing for hours in interminable choruses, when the wind blows fair. If there is no wind, half of them are on shore, tugging us slowly along the banks with a long tow-rope, and singing all day long: '*Agá hamám—agá hamám!*' If we strike on a sand-bank, they jump into the river, and put their shoulders against the hull, singing: '*hay-hayles sah!*' If the current is slow, they ship the oars and pull us up stream, singing so complicated a refrain that it is impossible to write it with other than Arabic characters. There are eight men and a boy, besides our stately rala, Hassan Abd el-Sadik, and the swarthy pilot, who greets us every morning with a whole round of Arabic salutations.

"Against an upright pole which occupies the place of a mainmast, stands our kitchen, a high wooden box, with three furnaces. Here our cook, Salame, may be seen at all times, with the cowl of a blue capote drawn over his turban, preparing the marvellous dishes, wherein his delight is not less than ours. Salame, like a skilful artist as he is, husbands his resources, and each day astonishes us with new preparations, so that out of few materials he has attained the grand climax of all art—variety in unity. Achmet, my faithful dragoman, has his station here, and keeps one eye on the vessel and one on the kitchen, while between the two he does not relax his protecting care for us. The approach to the cabin is flanked by our provision chests, which will also serve as a breastwork in case of foreign aggression. A huge filter-jar of porous earthenware stands against the back of the kitchen. We keep our fresh butter and vegetables in a box under it, where the sweet Nile-water drips cool and clear into an earthen basin. Our bread and vegetables, in an open basket of palm-branches, are suspended beside it, and the roof of the cabin supports our poultry-yard and pigeon-house. Sometimes (but not often) a leg of mutton may be seen hanging from the ridge-pole, which extends over the deck as a support to the awning.

"The cabin, or mansion of the executive powers, is about twenty-five feet long. Its floor is two feet below the deck, and its ceiling five feet above, so that we are not cramped or crowded in any particular. Before the entrance is a sort of portico, with a broad, cushioned seat on each side, and side-awnings to shut out the sun. This place is devoted to pipes and meditation. We throw up the awnings, let the light pour in on all sides, and look out on the desert mountains while we inhale the incense of the East. Our own main cabin is about ten feet long, and newly painted of a brilliant blue colour. A broad divan, with cushions, extends along each side, serving as a cushion by day and a bed by night. There

are windows, blinds, and a canvas cover at the sides, so that we can regulate our light and air as we choose. In the middle of the cabin is our table and two camp stools, while shawls, capotes, pistols, sabre, and gun are suspended from the walls. A little door at the further end opens into a wash-room, beyond which is a smaller cabin with beds, which we have allotted to Achmet's use. Our cook sleeps on deck, with his head against the provision chest. The rais and pilot sleep on the roof of our cabin, where the latter sits all day, holding the long arm of the rudder, which projects forward over the cabin from the high end of the stern.

"Our manner of life is simple, and might even be called monotonous, but we have never found the greatest variety of landscape and incident so thoroughly enjoyable. The scenery of the Nile, thus far, scarcely changes from day to day in its forms and colours, but only in their disposition with regard to each other. The shores are either palm-groves, fields of cane and durra, young wheat, or patches of bare sand, blown out from the desert. The villages are all the same agglomerations of mud-walls, the tombs of the Moslem saints are the same white ovens, and every individual camel and buffalo resembles its neighbour in picturesque ugliness. The Arabian and Libyan mountains, now sweeping so far into the foreground that their yellow cliffs overhang the Nile, now receding into the violet haze of the horizon, exhibit little difference of height, hue, or geological formation. Every new scene is the turn of a kaleidoscope, in which the same objects are grouped in other relations, yet always characterised by the most perfect harmony. These slight, yet ever-renewing changes, are to us a source of endless delight. Either from the pure atmosphere, the healthy life we lead, or the accordant tone of our spirits, we find ourselves unusually sensitive to all the slightest touches, the most minute rays of that grace and harmony which bathes every landscape in cloudless sunshine. The various groupings of the palms, the shifting of the blue evening shadows on the rose-hued mountain walls, the green of the wheat and the sugar-cane, the windings of the great river, the alternations of wind and calm—each of these is enough to content us, and to give every day a different charm from that which went before. We meet contrary winds, calms, and sand-banks, without losing our patience, and even our excitement in the swift and grace with which our vessel scuds before the north wind is mingled with a regret that our journey is drawing so much the more swiftly to its close. A portion of the old Egyptian repose seems to be infused into our natures, and lately, when I saw my face in a mirror, I thought I perceived in its features something of the patience and resignation of the Sphinx."

As a contrast to this, let us give the author's picture—drawn some hundreds of miles farther on his journey—of

LIFE IN THE DESERT.

"I found the Desert life not only endurable but very agreeable. No matter how warm it might be at mid-day, the nights were always fresh and cool, and the wind blew strong from the north-west, during the greater part of the time. The temperature varied from 50 degs. to 55 degs. at 6 A.M., to 80 degs. 85 degs. at 2 P.M. The extremes were 47 degs. and 100 degs. So great a change of temperature every day was not so unpleasant as might be supposed. In my case, nature seemed to make a special provision in order to keep the balance right. During the hot hours of the day I never suffered inconvenience from the heat, but up to 85 degs. felt sufficiently cool. I seemed to absorb the rays of the sun, and as night came on and the temperature of the air fell, that of my skin rose, till at last I glowed through and through, like a live coal. It was a peculiar sensation, which I never experienced before, but was rather pleasant than otherwise. My face, however, which was alternately exposed to the heat radiated from the sand, and the keen morning wind, could not accommodate itself to so much contraction and expansion. The skin cracked and peeled off more than once, and I was obliged to rub it daily with butter. I mounted my dromedary with a 'shining morning face,' until, from alternate buttering and burning, it attained the hue and crispness of a well-basted partridge."

"I soon fell into a regular daily routine of travel, which, during all my later experiences of the Desert, never became monotonous. I rose at dawn every morning, bathed my eyes with a handful of the precious water, and drank a cup of coffee. After the tent had been struck and the camels laden, I walked ahead for two hours, often so far in advance that I lost sight and hearing of the caravan. I found an unspeakable fascination in the sublime solitude of the Desert. I often beheld the sun rise, when, within the wide ring of the horizon, there was no other living creature to be seen. He came up like a god, in awful glory, and it would have been a natural act, had I cast myself upon the sand and worshipped him. The sudden change in the colouring of the landscape, on his appearance—the lighting up of the dull sand into a warm golden hue, and the tinges of purple and violet on the distant porphyry hills—was a morning miracle, which I never beheld without awe. The richness of this colouring made the Desert beautiful; it was too brilliant for desolation. The scenery, so far from depressing, inspired and exhilarated me. I never felt the sensation of physical health and strength in such perfection, and was ready to shout from morning till night, from the overflow of happy spirits. The air is an elixir of life—as sweet and pure and refreshing as that which the first man breathed on the morning of creation. You inhale the unadulterated elements of the atmosphere, for there are no exhalations from moist earth, vegetable matter, or the smokes and steams which arise from the abodes of men, to stain its purity. This air, even more than its silence and solitude, is the secret of one's attachment to the Desert. It is a beautiful illustration of the compensating care of that Providence, which leaves none of the waste places of the earth without some atoning glory. Where all the pleasant aspects of Nature are wanting—where there is no green thing, no fount for the thirsty lip, scarcely the shadow of a rock to shield the wanderer in the blazing noon—God has breathed upon the wilderness his sweetest and tenderest breath, giving clearness to the eye, strength to the frame, and the most joyous exhilaration to the spirits."

Leaving the desert, Mr. Taylor, as we have before said, embarks on the White Nile, sails on boldly into the heart of Africa, leaves behind him the last relics of Egyptian civilisation, and reaches the Primitive Negro Kingdom of the Shillooks. There is something very picturesque and striking in this briefly-described

RIVER SCENE IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

"We sailed nearly all night with a steady north wind, which towards morning became so strong that the men were obliged to take in sail and let us scud under bare poles. When I rose, in the grey of early dawn, they were about hoisting the little stern-sheet, which alone sufficed to carry us along at the rate of four miles an hour. We had passed the frontier of Egyptian Soudan soon after sunset, and were then deep in the negro kingdom of the Shillooks. The scenery had changed considerably since the evening. The forests were taller and more dense, and the river more thickly studded with islands, the soil of which was entirely concealed by the luxuriant girdle of shrubs and water plants, in which they lay imbedded. The ambak, a species of aquatic shrub, with leaves resembling the sensitive plant and winged, bean-like blossoms of a rich yellow hue, grew on the edge of the shore, with its roots in the water, and its long arms floating on the surface. It formed impenetrable ramparts around the islands and shores, except where the hippopotamus and crocodile had trodden paths into the forests, or the lion and leopard had come down to the river's margin to drink. Behind this floating hem of foliage and blossoms appeared other and larger shrubs, completely matted together with climbing vines, which covered them like a mantle, and hung from their branches dangling streamers of white and purple blossoms. They even stretched to the boughs of the large mimosa, or sora trees, which grew in the centre of the islands, thus binding all together in rounded masses. Some of the smaller islands resembled floating hills of vegetation, and their slopes and summits of impervious foliage, rolling in the wind, appeared to keep time with the rocking of the waves that upheld them. The profusion of vegetable life reminded me of the Chagros River. If not so rich and gorgeous, it was on a far grander scale. The river had still a breadth of a mile and a half, where his current was free, but where island crowded on island, in a vast archipelago of leafy shores, he took a much wider sweep. The waves danced and glistened in the cool northern wind, as we glided around his majestic curves, and I stood on deck watching the wonderful panorama unfold on either side, with a feeling of exultation to which I gave free vent. In no other river have I seen landscapes of larger or more imposing character."

All the rich animal world of this region was awake and stirring before the sun. The wild fowls left their roosts; the *sikzaks* flew twittering over the waves, calling up their mates, the sleepy crocodiles; the herons stretched their wings against the wind; the monkeys leaped and chattered in the woods; and at last, whole herds of hippopotami, sporting

near the shore, came up spouting water from their nostrils, in a manner precisely similar to the grampus. I counted six together, soon after sunrise, near the end of an island. They floundered about in the shallows, popping up their heads every few minutes to look at us, and at last walked out through the reeds and stood upon the shore. Soon afterwards, five more appeared on the other side of the river, and thenceforth we saw them almost constantly, and sometimes within fifty yards. I noticed one which must have been four feet in breadth across the ears, and with a head nearly five feet long. He opened his mouth wide enough to show two round, blunt tusks, or rather grinders, one on each side. They exhibited a great deal of curiosity, and frequently turned about after we had passed, and followed for some time in our wake."

Our traveller lands boldly among the Shillooks, and has

AN INTERVIEW WITH A NEGRO SHEKH.

"The shekh of the island, a tall, handsome man, rose to greet me, by touching the palm of his right hand to mine and then raising it to his forehead. I made a like salutation, after which he sat down. The vizier (as he called himself), an old man excessively black in complexion, then advanced, and the other warriors in succession, till all had saluted me. The conversation was carried on in the Arabic jargon of Soudan, which the shekh and some of his men spoke tolerably well, so that I could understand the most of what was said. 'Why don't you bring the sultan's carpet that he may rest?' said the shekh to one of my sailors. The carpet and pillows were immediately brought, and I stretched myself out in front of the shekh and vizier, who sat upon a fallen tree, while the others squatted upon the ground. The shekh at first took no part in the conversation, but sat looking at me steadily from under his heavy eyebrows. Our negotiations were conducted in genuine diplomatic style. Whenever his Majesty of the Shillooks had anything to say, he mentioned it to his vizier, who addressed Achmet, my vizier, who communicated it to me, the sultan. The spectators observed the most profound silence, and nothing could surpass the gravity and solemnity of the scene."

"In the meantime the other warriors had come up and taken their seats around us, each one greeting me before he sat down with '*ow-ow-ow-bba*?' (probably a corruption of the Arabic '*mar-habba*?' 'how d'ye do?') The vizier, addressing me through Achmet, said: 'Tell us what you want; if you come to fight, we are ready for you.' I assured the shekh through him that I came as a friend, and had no intention of molesting them, but he was not satisfied, and repeated three or four times, drawing a mark between us on the ground: 'If you are really friends, we will be friends with you; but if you are not we are ready to fight you.' Achmet at last swore by the Prophet Mohammed, and by the wisdom of Allah, that we had come in peace; that the sultan wished to pay him a visit, and would then return home. At the request of the rais we had come on shore unarmed, but it had not the anticipated effect. 'Why have you no arms?' said the shekh; 'are you afraid of us?' I told him that it was in order to show that I had no hostile intentions, but the people seemed to consider it as a mark of either treachery or fear. I brought some tobacco with me, which I gave to the shekh, but he received it coldly, and said: 'Where is the dress which the sultan has brought for me?' This reminded me that I had entirely neglected to provide myself in Khartoum with muslin and calico for presents. I remedied the deficiency, however, by going on board and taking one of my shirts and a silk handkerchief, as well as some beads and ear-rings for the wives of the two dignitaries. Achmet added a shirt and a pair of Turkish drawers, and brought a fresh supply of tobacco for the warriors. The shekh took the presents with evident gratification, and then came the work of clothing him. He was entirely at a loss how to put on the garments, but Achmet and the rais unwound the cotton cloth from his loins, stuck his legs into the drawers, his arms into the shirt-sleeves, and tied the handkerchief about his head. Once clothed, he paid no further attention to his garments, but wore them with as much nonchalance as if he had never possessed a scantier costume. The vizier, who had shown manifest ill-humour at being passed by, was quieted by the present of a shirt, which was put upon his shoulders in like manner. He gave me his name as '*Afjeb-Seedoo*' ('He pleases his Master'), a most appropriate name for a vizier. The shekh's name, *Abd-en-noor* ('the Slave of Light'), was hardly so befitting, for he was remarkably dark. I was much amused at my servant Ali, who had shown great terror on the first appearance of the savages. He had already become so familiar, that when the shekh did not seem to understand the use of the beads and ear-rings, Ali pinched his ears very significantly, and took hold of his neck to show how they must be worn."

"By this time coffee had been prepared, and was brought to them. But they had been so accustomed to inhumanity and deception on the part of the Turks, that they still mistrusted us, and no one would drink, for fear that it contained poison. To quiet them, therefore, I drank a cup first, after which they took it readily, and many of them, who then tasted coffee for the first time, did not seem to relish it. A drove of sheep happening to pass by, the shekh ordered one of the rams to be caught and put on board the vessel, for the sultan's dinner. The men soon began to demand tobacco, clothes, and various other things, and grew so importunate that Achmet became alarmed, and even the rais, who was a man of some courage, seemed a little uneasy. I thought it time to give a change to affairs, and therefore rose and told the shekh I was ready to visit his village. We had intended returning on board and sailing to the place, which was at the southern extremity of the island, about a mile distant, but reflecting that this might occasion mistrust, and that the best way of avoiding danger is to appear unconscious of it, I called Achmet and the rais to accompany me on foot. While these things were transpiring, a number of other Shillooks had arrived, so that there were now upwards of fifty. All were armed—the most of them with iron-pointed spears, some with clubs, and some with long poles, having knobs of hard wood on the end. They were all tall, strong, stately people, not more than two or three under six feet in height, while the most of them were three or four inches over that standard. Some had a piece of rough cotton cloth tied around the waist or thrown over the shoulders, but most of them were entirely naked. Their figures were large and muscular, but not symmetrical, nor was there the least grace in their movements. Their faces resembled a cross between the negro of Guinea and the North American Indian, having the high cheek-bones, the narrow forehead and pointed head of the latter, with the flat nose and projecting lips of the former. Their teeth were so long as to appear like tusks, and in most of them one or two front teeth were wanting, which gave their faces a wolfish expression. Their eyes were small and had an inflamed look, which might have been occasioned by the damp exhalations of the soil on which they slept. Every one wore an armband above the elbow, either a segment of an elephant's tusk, or a thick rim of plaited hippopotamus hide. The most of them had a string of glass beads around the neck, and the shekh wore a necklace of the large white variety, called 'pigeon eggs' by the traders on the White Nile. They had no beards, and their hair was seared or plucked out on the forehead and temples, leaving only a circular crown of crisp wool on the top of the head. Some had rubbed their faces and heads with red ashes, which imparted a livid, ghastly effect to their black skins."

At length he arrives at the final point of his journey, beyond which it is hopeless to think of penetrating. His attendants will venture no farther with him, and he takes one wistful last look, before he returns, at

THE GATEWAY TO THE UNKNOWN SOUTH.

"As we weighed anchor, I found that the men had taken down both sails and shipped the oars for our return to Khartoum. We had reached the southern point of the island, at about lat. 12 deg. 30 min. north, and the north wind was still blowing strongly. The rounded tops of the mimosa forests bent southward as they tossed; the flowery arms of the ambak-trees waved to the south, trailing against the current, and my heart sank within me at the thought of retracing my steps. We had sailed 250 miles in forty-eight hours; the gateway to the unknown south was open, and it seemed a treason against fortune to turn my face towards the Mediterranean. 'Achmet!' said I, 'tell the men to set the *tribinet* again. We will sail to the Bahr el-Ghazal.' The Theban's face became ghastly at the bare idea. 'O master!' he exclaimed, 'are you not satisfied with your good fortune? We are now nearly at the end of the earth, and if we go further it will be impossible to return.' Rais Abou-Hammed declared that he had kept his word, and that he should now return, as is laid down in the agreement, before we left Khartoum. I knew there was certain danger in going further, and that I had no right to violate my agreement and peril others as well as myself; but there lay the great river, holding in his lap, to tempt me on, Isles of brighter bloom and spreading out shores of yet richer foliage. I was in the centre of the continent. Beyond me all was strange and unknown, and the Gulf of Guinea was less distant than the Mediterranean, which I left not three months before. Why not push on and attempt to grasp the

Central African secret? The fact that stronger, braver, and bolder men had failed, was one lure the more. Happily for me, perhaps, my object on commencing the voyage had been rest and recreation, not exploration. Had I been provided with the necessary means and scientific appliances for making such an attempt useful, it would have been impossible to turn back at that point.

"I climbed to the masthead and looked to the south, where the forest archipelago, divided by glittering reaches of water, wove its labyrinth in the distance. I thought I saw—but it may have been fancy—beyond the leafy crown of the farthest isles, the faint blue horizon of that sea of water and grass, where the palm again appears and the lotus fringes the shores. A few hours of the strong north wind, now blowing in our faces, would have taken me there, but I gave myself up to fate and a pipe, which latter immediately suggested to me that though I was leaving the gorgeous heart of Africa, I was going back to civilisation and home."

For Mr. Taylor's adventures on his homeward journey we must refer our readers to his volume. We have quoted largely from it, but have not exhausted a tenth part of the various attractions which its pages offer to the "stay-at-home traveller." The book—especially towards the latter part of it—is full of fresh and genuine interest. Need we say more in its favour during such a dull publishing season as this?

ENNEMOSER'S HISTORY OF MAGIC.

The History of Magic. By Joseph Ennemoser. Translated from the German by William Howitt. Bohn.

The title and subject of this book, when it was first announced, at once attracted us. We opened it eagerly, and very soon found that of all the expectations we had formed from it hardly one was to be fulfilled. So far as the English public are concerned, the History of Magic remains to be written. No exceptions can be taken to the learning and industry of Ennemoser, or to his earnest desire to pursue his subject to its utmost limits. He does his best in his first volume, for example, to teach us about Magic in general and Magic in particular among all the ancient nations. The Mythos, the Cabbalah, Tumah, Primal Truth, the Prevalent Divine Idea, the Infected Imaginations of the Lapps, the Voluspa, the Kyphi, the Magnetic Nature of Aristides, and the Divine Dream of the Soul—are a few of the occult matters with which Ennemoser would appear to be perfectly familiar; but his misfortune is, that he cannot instruct his readers as successfully as he has instructed himself. The one fatal objection that we have to make to this book is, that it is for the most part simply incomprehensible. Ennemoser seems to us to be too much of a philosopher and mystic, and too little of a poet and man of the world for his subject. He will dive and speculate profoundly, in many places, where he would be much more useful if he kept on the surface, and narrated picturesquely. Whether the translator is to blame or not we cannot say; but the present *History of Magic* presents the curious anomaly of a mystic subject so mystically written about, that instead of instructing the general reader, it is calculated, in innumerable instances, to render itself absolutely and literally incomprehensible to him.

In proof of this assertion, let us, before we go any farther, select an example or two, from the first volume, of the "unknown tongue," in which the historian of Magic speaks for the benefit of the English public. Will the ladies oblige us by paying particular attention to the teaching of the Cabbalah (or book of patriarchal traditions) on the subject of women, as expounded by Molitor, quoted by Ennemoser, and translated by Howitt?—

"Woman is man reversed, his mirrored image: while he is a self-acting principle, productively striving outwards, and ever seeking the universal, the infinite, the woman is the negative principle, acting from without inwards, from the circumference to the centre, receptive, ready from man's expansive energy to reduce concrete forms."

If Mr. Molitor who wrote that sentence, Mr. Ennemoser who copied it, Mr. Howitt who translated it, Mrs. Howitt who edited it, and Mr. Bohn who published it, all laid their heads together, and tried to explain what it really meant, would they succeed in the effort? We venture to think not. Here is a sentence of Ennemoser's own, on "Spiritual Appearances," which begins a paragraph, and the meaning of which, to our limited capacity, lies a little too much concealed under an atmosphere of metaphysical fog:

"If the supernatural and super-material may be reflected upon the ensouled vital powers from an unmeasured distance (imaginatio passiva), and therefore influences may take place between the mind and body, of which, however, the soul has no distinct consciousness, then is the direct mental influence and activity undeniable; for that which is spiritual is not separately spiritual, and all the wonders of the world of spirits are in the end resolved into wonders of our own minds."

Here, again, are some remarks about magic and sorcery, which will appear assuredly, to nine readers out of ten, to be mere jargon of the most unintelligible kind:—

"As light precedes the shadow, magic precedes sorcery; the abuse proceeds from the use—error marches side by side with truth. Without the earlier magic of instinctive clairvoyance, and the acting vitality of the mind, sorcery would not have been discovered. The symbols which ecstatic clairvoyance had imparted in the mythology were not explicable to all, and their significance may be investigated from various directions. If through the clairvoyance, as we see in magnetism, which was methodically practiced in the oracular temples, the powers of nature were discovered and known in their various activity, therefore the supposition is not without foundation that the secrets of the temple consisted in magical knowledge, and in the practice of those powers of nature, which, being intimately connected with the religious customs, must also have been comprehended by mythology."

We might quote pages and pages of such metaphysical slip-slop as this from every part of the first volume alone. But proof enough has been produced to support our assertion that the book is written in such a clumsy, involved, and unintelligible style, that it will repel the general reader, weary the student, and irritate the critic. We ourselves have in many places been bewildered by the obscurities of the author's own style, and by the yet denser darkness of the quotations which overshadow his pages in all directions, that we are really quite unable to say what his opinions are in relation to many of the most important topics which he discusses (and mystifies) in these volumes. "What can Ennemoser possibly be driving at?" has been almost the only mental question we have proposed to ourselves while labouring, in the reader's service, through the History of Magic.

Although the author has thus failed as to the first great requisite of expressing himself clearly and satisfactorily, although he is either too profoundly learned, or too naturally prosaic in temperament to seize on the poetical aspects of his subject, and to present them picturesquely and impressively to the minds

of others, his book has nevertheless its readable and interesting pages, here and there—for those who will be careful and patient enough to search them out. Many a quaint scrap of antiquarian information, many a curious and striking relic of the superstition of past times, may be discovered—by long looking certainly—among the dreary pages of these volumes. These anecdotes, for instance, of an absurd and cruel medical superstition, which was current in the time of King David, and seems to have lasted till the time of Boerhaave, are very curious:—

In ancient times there was a universally accepted belief, that living together and breathing upon any person produced bad as well as good effects, and restored an undermined constitution, practised by a healthy person.

The usual means of plants and their juices, of stones, &c., might be used for particular cases; but, to eradicate deeply-rooted diseases, a young and fresh life was necessary. Especially, pure virgins and young children were supposed able to free persons from diseases by their breath, and even by their blood. The patient was to be breathed upon by them and sprinkled with their blood: to have bathed in the blood would have been better, could it have been possible. History supplies us with many remarkable instances of restoration to health, either by living with healthy persons, or by being breathed upon by them. One of the most remarkable is recorded in the Bible, of King David (1 Kings, i. 1-4).—"Now King David was old and stricken in years, and they covered him with clothes, but he got no heat. Wherefore his servants said unto him, 'Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin, and let her stand before the king, and let her cherish him, and let her lie in thy bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.'"

"So they sought for a damsel throughout all the coasts of Israel, and found Abishag, a Shunammite, and brought her to the king."

Bacon makes the remark in his work "De vitæ et mortis historia," that the girl probably rubbed the king with myrrh, and other balsamic substances, according to the custom of the Persian maidens.

Pliny recommends breathing on the forehead as a remedy (Hist. nat., p. 28, c. 6). Galen reckons among the most certain outward remedies for bodily weakness, young persons, who were laid on the bed so as to cover the body of the sufferer (Method. med. lib. vii.) Hyginus (De sanitate tuenda) is also of the same opinion; and Virgil says:—

"Et dedit amplexus atque oscula dulcia fixit,
Occultum inspirans ignem."

Æneid, lib. i.

Reinhart, in his "Bibelkrankheiten des alten Testaments," calls living with the young the restoration of the old. Bartholin (De morbis biblici, c. ix.) says the same, and that it is a preventive to the chilliness of old age, and by the breath restores much of the expired physical powers. Rudolph of Hapsburg is said, according to Serar's account, when very old and decrepit, to have been accustomed to kiss, in the presence of their relations, the daughters and wives of princely, ducal, and noble personages, and to have derived strength and renovation from their breath. The Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, near the end of his life, was advised, by a Jewish physician, to have young and healthy boys laid across his stomach, instead of using fomentations. Johannes Damascenus, or Bahhi Moses (Aphorism. 30), relates, that for lameness and gout nothing better could be applied than a young girl laid across the affected part. Reinhart says, "Young dogs are also of great service, which we physicians lay, in certain cases, upon the abdomen of the patient." Pomponatus (De naturalium effectuum admirand., &c., p. 41) says, "The presence and the breath of young people is a good physic." Amplexus adolescentium boni anhelitus est medicina temperata.

The story of Luc. Clodius Hermippus is well known, who reached a very great age by being continually breathed upon by young girls. Kohausen records an inscription which was discovered at Rome by an antiquary, by name Gomar. It was cut in marble, and runs as follows:—

"To Esculapius and Health
this is erected by
L. Clodius Hermippus,
who
by the breath of young girls
lived 115 years and 5 days,
at which physicians were no little
surprised.
Successive generations, lead such a life!"

(In Hermippo redivivo, sive Exercit. physic. med. curiosa de methodo rara ad cxv. annos prorogandæ senectutis: per anhelitum puellarum.—Francos. 1742.)

Borelli and Hoffman caused their patients to sleep with animals, to relieve violent pain or obstinate disease. The great Boerhaave ordered an Amsterdam burgomaster to sleep between two boys, and declared that the patient visibly increased in cheerfulness and physical power. Hufeland says, in his "Art of Lengthening Human Life," "And certainly, when we consider how efficacious for lameness are freshly opened animals, or the laying of a living animal upon any painful affection, we must feel convinced that these methods are not to be thrown aside." Among the Greeks and Romans much virtue was ascribed to the breath; and the old French poets praise the pure breath of virgins as very beneficial.

What became of the wretched boys, girls, and dogs who were used as so much physic by these atrocious old people? Did the miserable youngsters survive or not? What was the condition of Abishag after she had done keeping King David warm?

Ennemoser is more intelligible than usual in writing on the testimony offered by the language of the Bible to the existence of magnetic (or mesmeric) power, and to the knowledge of the secrets of magnetic practice, among the ancient Egyptians and the Jews. Our orthodox readers, who believe in "verbal inspiration," ought to be particularly interested in the following passage:—

The Jews who lived so long among the Egyptians, or at least in Egypt, are here the most reliable historians; and Moses, in sacred writ, is described as a man "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians." We find in the Bible expressions and accounts, which indicate the hand as the magical organ, not only metaphorically, but in a direct manner, and moreover with the same views which have been deduced from magnetism. For by the hand magnetic power is imparted, and somnambulism artificially produced, either by immediate contact with the hands, or by the approximation of the hands and the fingers, or only one finger. We find passages in the Bible which give the same destination the same effect, even the same direction to the hand—namely, that by the touch of the hand visions and the power of prophecy are produced. When God desired to inspire a prophet, what expression do we find made use of?—Thus, "The hand of the Lord came upon him, and he saw and prophesied." When Elisha was asked by the Kings of Israel and Judah concerning the war with the Moabites, he called a minstrel, "And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him." And he said, Thus saith the Lord, &c. We find similar expressions in the Psalms, in Ezekiel, &c.: "The word of the Lord came expressly unto Ezekiel, the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was there upon him." Ezekiel i. 3.—"Now the hand of the Lord was upon me in the evening, afore he that was escaped came; and had opened my mouth, until he came to me in the morning; and my mouth was opened and I was no more dumb." (Ezekiel xxxiii. 22.)—"In the five and twentieth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, &c., the hand of the Lord was upon me and brought me thither; in the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me on a very high mountain." (Ezekiel xl. i.) Wherefore mention here the hand of the Lord? God has not human hands! The Bible, therefore, evidently indicates the divine act by the means common among men when any one was to be thrown into ecstasy and should prophesy.

There are many other similar passages in the Bible concerning the importance of the hands in producing visions and ecstasy, as well as the magical influence of the hand generally. The laying on of hands was customary on many occasions, and thereby the communication of a certain power was signified, although such power was not tangible or visible. It is still customary in religious ceremonies, and was used in bestowing a bene-

diction, in sacrifice, contemplation, and miracles. (Mark v. 23, vi. 5, vii. 33, viii. 28; Luke iv. 40, &c.) In raising the dead, &c. In Daniel, chap. x, we find the following passage:—"And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz, &c., and Daniel alone saw the vision; for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me; for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. Yet I heard the voice of his words, and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face towards the ground; and behold an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands."

In the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream we find (Daniel ii) when all the astrologers, magicians, and Chaldeans, could not explain the king's dream—"Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation. Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, that they would desire mercies of the God of Heaven concerning this secret, that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision." According to the explanation of Calmet (Dictionnaire Hebr.: article Main) the hand laid upon the prophets means ten hands; making Daniel and his fellows wiser than the wise men of Babylon.

When we find "the hand of the Lord was with him," it signifies the counsel and aid of God, to speak truth and do good. In chapter i. v. 66, of Luke, we find of Zacharias that "the hand of the Lord was with him;" and of the Apostles, that "the hand of the Lord was with them, and they did signs and miracles."

In these passages, therefore, the hand is spoken of metaphorically as producing prophetic inspiration, and working miracles. The Apostles laid their hands on those who believed, and they received the Holy Ghost.

We see here the same proceedings as in magnetism,—the same attributes of the hand, the same functions, the same results; but with the difference between the divine power and will and that of man. The laying on of hands is not absolutely necessary in magnetism; a finger suffices, or in some cases contact is unnecessary: in perfect communication the will is sufficient, without using the hand as a conducting medium. In the Bible we also find the finger of God often used metaphorically: miracles and signs were by the finger of God.

We have already alluded to Ennemoser's first volume as containing the history of magic in general, and of magic in particular as it existed among the ancient nations. The second volume is occupied with Magic in Mythology, Magic among the Germans, the Doctrines of the famous Mystics of the Middle Ages, and the phenomena of Animal Magnetism. As an historian, the author shows no tendency to get clearer and more comprehensible as he approaches modern times. He is as dreamy, indefinite, and involved among the mystics of the Middle Ages as he was among the sorcerers of ancient Egypt. If we are to present any extracts from the second volume, we shall best consult the reader's interests by avoiding all the ambitious and speculative passages before us, and quoting only this very quaint and diverting list of the Sympathetic Superstitions which were once devoutly believed in by thousands and thousands of the human race:—

SYMPATHETIC SUPERSTITIONS.

When women boil yarn, they must tell a lie at the same time, otherwise it will not get white.

Parents must not buy their children any rattles, nor allow any to be given them, or they will be slow at learning, and will speak with difficulty.

When you take straw for a hen's nest out of a marriage bed, you must take it from the man's side if you want cock chickens, and from the wife's if you want hen chickens.

No one must on any account weigh an empty cradle, or he will weigh the child's rest away.

The nails on the hands of an infant must be bitten off by the mother the first time, or it will learn to steal.

If you wish a child to become a hundred years old, you must get it godfathers out of three different parishes.

If you let a child look into a looking-glass before it is a year old, it will become proud.

Children that cry at christening, will die soon.

Let a mother go three Sundays successively out of the church in silence, and blow each time into the mouth of her child, and it will get its teeth easy.

Let the father immediately after the christening give the child a sword in its hand, and it will become brave.

Blue cornflowers gathered on Corpus-Christi Sunday stop the bleeding of the nose if they are held in the hand till they are warm.

A woman can cure her ear-ache by binding a man's stocking round her head.

Elder planted before the stable-door preserves the cattle from witchcraft.

He who carries about him a cord with which a rupture doctor has bound up a rupture, may lift the heaviest weight without any danger.

A piece of wood out of a coffin that has been dug up, when laid in a cabbage bed defends it from caterpillars.

One should not lean over a cradle where a child is sleeping, nor should it be left standing open.

Splinters from an oak split by lightning cure tooth-ache.

He who will sow seed, let him be careful not to lay it on a table, otherwise it will not grow.

He who has the hiccup, let him plunge a naked knife into a can of beer, and take a good draught of it at one breath.

He who cannot sleep, be it a child or adult, let him lay a composing whisp under his pillow; that is, straw which workwomen put under the burdens on their backs; but it must be taken from the people unknown to them.

In brewing, lay a bunch of nettles in the barrel; it is then safe against thunder.

A wife who has a cold must sneeze into her husband's shoe.

It is not good to strike a beast with a switch which has been used to correct a child.

Chastise neither man nor beast with a peeled stick, for whatever is beaten with it will dry up.

When you place your shoes reversed at the head of your bed, the nightmare cannot oppress you.

Old women often cut a turf of a foot long which their enemy has lately trodden on, and hang it up in the chimney, and their enemy must wither away.

Let any one who has great anxiety touch the great toe of a dead person, and he will at once become free from it.

If any one dies in the house, you must shake the bee-hives, and the wine and vinegar, or the bees, the wine and the vinegar, will all go off or spoil.

The first medicine which a lying-in woman takes, should be out of her husband's spoon; it will then be more efficacious.

During the pains of child-birth, it does good to turn the slippers of the husband round.

Three grains of salt in a measure of milk preserves it from witchcraft.

No one must taste the first warm beer which is given to a lying-in woman; it must be tried with the finger, otherwise the woman will be attacked with colic.

If a child has the red-gum, take a piece of wood from a mill-wheel, burn it, and smoke the child's swaddling-clothes therewith; then wash the child with water that flows from the wheel. The wood that remains must be cast into running water.

You should never wear a child while trees are in blossom; otherwise it will have grey hair.

Three buttons bound together with a thread, and laid in a coffin, will free from warts.

If any one has received a bodily hurt, wash him with brook-water while the bell is tolling for a funeral.

With this extract we close a book which led us to expect much from it, and which has greatly disappointed us. The so-called "Appendix" to the second volume, which occupies nearly two hundred pages, and which consists of nothing but old ghost stories, clumsily reproduced from other peoples' printed narratives, is not worthy of criticism. We are astonished that Mr. Bohn, who has done the public good service by printing many excellent books at moderate prices, has also permitted the Appendix to Ennemoser's *History of Magic* to be published.

THE BALTIC, THE BLACK SEA, AND THE CRIMEA

The Baltic, the Black Sea, and the Crimea. By Charles Henry Scott.

There are different ways of writing books of travel, but by far the pleasantest is that in which the author aims at little more than a simple description of the sights and scenes which interested himself. Such is the method adopted by Mr. Scott. "The book," he tells us, "has no pretensions beyond a faithful narrative of things and persons seen and visited, with the impressions to which they gave rise; and some short sketches of the various races encountered in these wanderings." It possesses, however, another claim on public attention. The ground over which you are carried is, to a great extent, untrodden. "The voyage down the Volga from Nijni-Novgorod to Astrachan has never been accomplished in the same manner by any travellers who have published their experiences." And it is to a description of this and of the Crimea that by far the largest portion of the book is devoted.

Our first extract shall be an account of Dr. Haase, the governor of the prison at Moscow:—

"We drove on the morning of the 4th of August, to the Sparrow Hills, near Moscow. There stands the gloomy prison, the temporary asylum of those condemned to Siberian banishment. Being armed with a kind of introduction to Dr. Haase, the governor, we were made his acquaintance.

"We must here pause to say a few words of this extraordinary man. A German by birth, he had followed successfully the medical profession in Russia, and had devoted all his income to the relief of the unfortunate, wherever they were to be found; amongst others, he visited and took an interest in the prisoners, who find Moscow a short resting-place on their weary journey to Siberia. He listened to their tales of woe, appealed to the authorities in their behalf, alleviated their sufferings, and supplied their wants. Gradually his visits became more frequent, and after a time, whenever a fresh conveyance was to leave, the good Dr. Haase was to be seen wending his way to the place of their confinement; at last he was looked upon as almost necessary to the final arrangements for their departure. The name of this excellent man had become known to the poor prisoners themselves, and they looked forward with pleasure to the moment for meeting him. That which would have been regarded by the officials (and there is no jack-in-office more jealous than he of Russia) in any other man as impertinent interference, was overlooked in him; and now for many years he has been recognised by the Emperor as governor of the prison, without having been positively appointed to the post. He has been decorated, but receives no pay or emolument; his philanthropy being of that exalted kind, that it finds a more triumphant and lasting reward in the execution of its own divine impulses, than any amount of 'filthy lucre' could bestow.

"Such, then, was the man who now became known to us. We were received by him with kindness, and taken at once to see the prisoners, who were about to start on their journey of six thousand four hundred versts on foot and in chains, and which occupies seven months in its accomplishment. They had attended divine service, and now ranged in rows, awaited only the usual final questions and adieus. There were in all about forty men and women; each of the former having one temple shaved, which gave a most dismaying expression to the eye of that side, and in fact to the whole countenance. They had been convicted for various crimes, from murder to simple robbery, but there were on this occasion no political offenders. In addition to the exiles, there were several women and children, the latter of all ages under four years, the youngest being but a few weeks old; these were the wives and children of some of the men, accompanying them in their banishment. The Russian law permitting, but not forcing, the women to follow their husbands, and take with them all their children under the age we have mentioned above, the marriage being dissolved in the event of the wives objecting to go.

"One poor creature, full of grief, petitioned Dr. Haase to have her eldest child of three years sent after her by the next conveyance, as, from some informality, it had been left behind; and this request was immediately granted, though she had already two younger ones with her. Each individual in succession having been asked whether he had any request or complaint to make, and examined as to the state of his health, had a piece of money, and any other present, sent by the charitable for distribution, given him, and then they started, the men chained together in pairs, but the women being free. Carts were provided for the wives and children, and any who might fall sick on the road, and as far as lay in the power of Dr. Haase, the comforts of the whole were attended to, and he personally examined the minutiae of the arrangements.

"These prisoners march about fifteen or twenty miles a day, and have occasional resting days; the hardships of their journey having been greatly mitigated by the benevolent exertions of this good man, perseveringly exercised through a long series of years; but as they recede from the centre of power, their sufferings are said to increase, and their numbers are considerably diminished before they reach their destination.

"The greatest joy of the life of Dr. Haase, is to watch the process of knocking the shackles from the legs of the newly-arrived prisoners, thereby permitting their week's sojourn in Moscow, which is the central dépôt for twenty-two departments, to be really a time of rest. To see this, we accompanied him, after we had watched the sad procession which had just parted, for some little distance on its road.

"In a long low room we found about twenty men, who had come the day before from the provinces. A movement took place on our entering, and the rattling chains grated harshly on the ear. A passing shade of pleasure lighted up the countenances of most as Dr. Haase passed amongst them, but was soon succeeded by a state of passive resignation.

"The blacksmith was in readiness with his tools, and one by one the strong rivets flew from the shackles. I wish my powers permitted me to describe the expression of that kind man's face as he sat, the type of the true philanthropist: there was something more than pleasure; there was religion in every lineament; his eyes were lighted by a holy fire, and around his lips played a smile of benevolent joy, such as I had never seen before.

"He now mingled with these prisoners, and addressed words of affection and kindness to each: the eyes of one became full of tears—tears, too, bearing all the evidences of deep and genuine feeling. We felt interested in this man, and inquired the nature of his crime; our surprise we found he was nothing less than a murderer. Here, then, was a being whose hands were dyed in the life's blood of his fellow, yet whose heart was melted like an infant's by a few words of kindly sympathy. Who knows what that man might have become had his better feelings been earlier fostered and encouraged? Perhaps that short sentence had been almost the first ever addressed to him in tones free from harshness or cruelty.

"A group attracted our attention; it consisted of three young Cossack brothers; one had been condemned some months before, but, having disease of the heart, had not been forwarded to Siberia. He now implored Dr. Haase to permit him to accompany the other two, who had just arrived, and his wish was gratified.

"We went over the prison, consisting of a large quadrangle of one story, having the windows towards the court. The rooms were fitted up with benches of wood, on which the prisoners slept without mattresses; but this is no hardship to them, for, as we stated before, the Russian peasant knows no such luxury as a bed. Dr. Haase informed us, however, that exiles from the higher classes were provided with them.

"In a small room apart were two remarkably handsome-looking men. They were the chiefs of a border tribe submitted to Russia, but some suspicion of infidelity having fallen

upon them, they had been confined nine months in this prison, and on our entrance, anxiously asked Dr. Haase for some information of their coming fate. Two finer countenances could scarcely be imagined.

"The rooms were tolerably lighted, and, for a Russian prison, clean and pretty well ventilated."

"The night before our departure from Moscow, Dr. Haase called to take leave of us, having done so once before in the day during our absence. Addressing me, he said, 'I was anxious to see you, as I wished to give you something in remembrance of your visit to the prison, and I thought nothing would be so gratifying to you as a set of the chains you saw hanging from the legs of one of those poor prisoners.' It was with extreme pain that I felt myself obliged to decline a present intended to give me pleasure; but I explained that it was my intention to visit many other countries, and that in going through the custom-houses I should run the chance of being taken for an escaped convict, or, under the most favourable view, be regarded as a very suspicious character. He fully appreciated my reasons, and, grasping the hands of both my friend and myself in his, he embraced us on each cheek, and bade us adieu with a blessing."

Views of the Volga:

"The views of the Volga are ever changing, ever charming. None of its scenery mounts to the sublime, but most of it is beautiful, with a great deal of the picturesque. As religion exercises so powerful an influence over the social habits of the people, even placing its stamp upon their manners—as it is the chain wherewith an empire is held in the bonds of slavery, and the weapon aimed at the independence of surrounding nations—so does the church become a prominent feature in the physical appearance of the country. All that is picturesque on the Volga is derived from the form, the colouring, and position of the churches. The villages built of wood, many of them admirably placed, would nevertheless be totally devoid of effect, from their sombre and monotonous colour, producing none of that play of light and shade, necessary to produce striking contrast; but the church with its domes, generally gilded, supplies all that is wanted, gives life to the sober shade of the surrounding houses, and character to the whole. For this reason a traveller, describing a hundred different views on the river, including the surrounding country, can scarcely avoid introducing into each the dome and cupolas of the churches."

"It is this boldness of the Russian church which cannot fail to strike the passing stranger, for it is pushed forward politically, socially, and physically. It meets him at every turn: if he goes into a town and shut his eyes, still there is the tolling of a great unmusical bell; opening them, he stands before the edifice itself: got to any part of the country, and the well-known domes are there; enter the peasant's cottage, the familiar picture of a saint stares him in the face; seek the inner room, and then another is ready to receive him. All this is policy: the church is the great engine by which the State is moved, and the object is to keep it ever prominently and conspicuously before an ignorant people."

Here is a description of a Don Cossack's house:—

"Early on the morning of the 1st of September we landed at the village of Veltianka, inhabited by Don Cossacks, situate on the right bank, which here becomes rather higher. While in search of provisions we entered the house of a Cossack soldier; the man was not at home, but his good wife was baking bread, of which we purchased a loaf just drawn from the oven. Whether Andre's olfactory nerves were more sensitive than ours, we know not, but certain it is, that immediately after we had quitted the house, he made his appearance with a large piece of mutton pasty, which he was dexterously throwing from one hand to another, thereby indicating that it was rather too hot to be pleasant. This process caused a rich odour to fill the air, and led us to return, and endeavour to purchase the remainder of the savory dish, which promised so good a breakfast. The Cossack's better half was, however, unwilling to part with the treat prepared for her husband, but a handsome premium upon the value, and a present of a dozen useless empty bottles, was a temptation too great to be resisted."

"The house of these decent people was a true oasis in the great desert of Russian dirtiness; everything was scrupulously clean, the seats, the table, the floor, were white, from scrubbing; and even the beams above had undergone the same process. It is said that occasionally a child born, and brought up in the midst of vice, yet becomes conspicuous for exalted virtue; so this Cossack woman stood forth a bright example of cleanliness in the midst of the universal filthiness which surrounded her. In the neat little room where we had been received, hung the cap, sword, and musket, of the husband, and by their side a nice guitar, showing that refinement of taste accompanied the virtue said to be so near akin to godliness."

The following account of Sebastopol will be read with interest:—

"The port of Sebastopol consists of a bay running in a south-easterly direction about four miles long, and a mile wide at the entrance, diminishing to four hundred yards at the end, where the 'Tchernia Betchka,' or Black River, empties itself. The average depth is about eight fathoms, the bottom being composed of mud in the centre, and gravel at the sides. On the southern coast of this bay are the commercial, military, and careening harbours; the quarantine harbour being outside the entrance. All these taking a southerly direction and having deep water."

"The military harbour is the largest, being about a mile and a half long, by four hundred yards wide, and is completely land-locked on every side. Here it is that the Black Sea fleet is moored in the winter; the largest ships being able to lie with all their stores on board close to the quays. The small harbour, which contains the naval arsenal and docks, is on the eastern side of the military harbour, near the entrance."

"The port is defended to the south by six principal batteries and fortresses, each mounting from fifty to a hundred and ninety guns; and the north by four, having from eighteen to a hundred and twenty pieces each; and besides these are many smaller batteries."

"The fortresses are built on the casemate principle, three of them having three tiers of guns, and a fourth two tiers. Fort St. Nicholas is the largest, and mounts about a hundred and ninety guns: on carefully counting them, we made a hundred and eighty-six. By great interest we obtained permission to enter this fortress. It is built of white limestone: a fine sand stone, which becomes hard and is very durable, the same material being used for all the other forts. Between every two casemates are furnaces for heating shot red hot: we ascertained the calibre of the guns, and found it to be eight inches, capable of throwing shells or sixty-eight pound solid shot."

"Whether all the guns in the fortress were of the same size, it is impossible to say, but my belief is that most of the fortifications of Sebastopol are heavily armed. We entered Fort St. Nicholas through the elegantly-furnished apartments of the military commandant, situated at its south-western end."

"At the period of our visit there were certainly not more than eight hundred and fifty pieces of artillery defending the port towards the sea, and of these about three hundred and fifty could be concentrated on a ship entering the bay. Other batteries, however, are said to have been since built. We took some trouble to ascertain these facts by counting the guns of the various forts; not always an easy matter where any suspicion of our object might have subjected us to grave inconveniences. Sebastopol is admirably adapted by nature for a strong position towards the sea, and it will be seen from what we have stated above that this has been fully taken advantage of to render it one of the most formidably fortified places in that direction which could be imagined."

"We are well aware that the casemated fortresses are very badly constructed, and though having an imposing exterior, that the walls are filled in with rubble. The work was carried out under Russian engineers, whose object was to make as much money as possible out of it. They were, moreover, found to be defective in ventilation, to remedy which some alterations were subsequently made; but admitting all their defects, they are still strong enough to inflict some amount of injury on an attacking fleet before their guns could be silenced. And

when that is accomplished, supposing there are now nine hundred and fifty pieces, there would still remain five hundred guns of large calibre, in strong open batteries, half of them throwing shells and red-hot shot, independent of mortars. This is a force of armament against which no fleets have been tried, not only with regard to the number of guns and weight of metal, but the nature of the projectiles; any single shell fired point blank, and striking between wind and water, being sufficient to sink a ship."

"If Sebastopol can be so easily taken by the allied fleets alone, and without land forces, as some people appear to imagine, it would be very satisfactory to know what amount of resistance it is expected that Portsmouth could offer to an enemy, with her seventy or eighty guns, not above five-and-twenty of which are heavier than thirty-two pounders."

"We do not mean to assert that it is impossible to destroy Sebastopol from the sea alone, but we believe that it could only be accomplished by an unnecessary sacrifice of life and ships with our present means, and that it would be nothing short of madness to attempt it, unless we had a reserve fleet on the spot, sufficiently strong to insure the command of the Black Sea in case of failure."

"In speaking of the means of defence at Sebastopol, we have left the Russian fleet out of the question. This, however, is not to be treated either with indifference or contempt; for, while we are ready to admit that neither in the strength of the ships, in the quality of the sailors, nor in any other respect, can it be compared for an instant to those of England and France, yet there can be no doubt of the Russian seamen being well trained in gunnery, nor of their being endowed with a kind of passive courage, which would lead them to stick to their work, when not called upon to exercise their seamanship, in which they are very deficient."

"There were in the military harbour of Sebastopol twelve line-of-battle ships, eight frigates, and seven corvettes; comprising the Black Sea fleet, independent of steamers. We visited, among others, the Twelve Apostles, of a hundred and twenty guns, and the first lieutenant accompanied us over her. She was a remarkably fine-looking ship, in excellent order, and very neat in her fittings. One thing which instantly struck us, was the absence of hammock-hooks, but we learned that beds were luxuries which the Russian sailors never dream of, the decks forming their only resting-places."

"On descending to the shell-room we examined one of the shells, and found it fitted with the common fuse. Now, as at that time it was believed that the Russians possessed a percussion or concussion shell, superior to any in the world, we were anxious to ascertain whether this was really the case; but from the inquiries we made of the lieutenant, we are convinced that such a shell existed only in imagination; that the common fuse was in use throughout the service, and may be so to the present day. The ports of the ship were marked with lines at different angles, by which to facilitate the concentration of the guns."

"We thanked our conductor for his politeness, and in doing so expressed our admiration of the ship. 'Yes,' said he, 'she is worthy of your praises. She was built on the lines of your Queen, now in the Mediterranean, by a Russian architect educated in one of the royal dockyards of England.'"

"There is the same speculation and corruption going on in the ship-building, as in all other departments in Russia; and at Sebastopol everything which proves defective in a ship is attributed to a destructive worm, about which the officials interested in doing so, relate tales almost as wonderful as those of the great sea-serpent. When a ship's bottom becomes prematurely rotten, as unseasoned timber is of course out of the question, the worm is the cause of the mischief; but how this singular creature has managed to pass through the copper without leaving a hole, no one attempts to explain. In the Baltic, where no worm exists, the destructive quality of the fresh water is equally great."

"The town of Sebastopol is situate on the point of land between the commercial and military harbours, which rises gradually from the water's edge to an elevation of two hundred feet. It is more than a mile in length; and its greatest width is about three quarters of a mile, the streets entering the open steppe on the south. It was partly defended on the west, towards the land, by a loop-holed wall, which had been pronounced by one of the first engineers of Russia as perfectly useless; and plans for completely fortifying the place in that direction were said to have been made; but whether the work has since been carried out we know not, though we have a deep conviction that strong defences will be found to exist there by the time a besieging army arrives. These, however, being hurriedly raised, can neither be of sufficient magnitude nor strength to offer a serious resistance to a long-continued fire of heavy artillery; and unless these fortifications are on a most extensive scale, and embrace a very wide circuit, they may be commanded from so many points, that, attacked with heavy guns of long range, their speedy reduction becomes a matter of certainty."

"None of the sea batteries or forts are of the slightest service for defence on the land side. Indeed, the great fort, 'St. Nicholas,' has not a gun pointed in that direction; and such an armament would be perfectly useless if it existed, as that part of the hill on which the town stands, rises behind it to a height of two hundred feet. In fact, all the fortresses and batteries, both to the north and south of the great bay, are commanded by higher ground in the rear."

"The first and all-important consideration, in reference to an attack on Sebastopol by land, is to ascertain where an army would find the most desirable place for disembarkation. Theodosia has been named amongst other localities, and it has certainly a beautiful harbour and many other conveniences, but the distance from the scene of action is a serious drawback. The troops would have to march over about an hundred and thirty miles of steppe, as it would be necessary to keep to the north of the mountains, where their progress could be easily arrested. Should wet weather set in, this steppe would become in a very short time quite impracticable for heavy artillery and baggage, as there are no roads whatever, and our little experience of rain showed us how rapidly the country became converted into a state closely resembling an Irish bog."

"Yalta is another port where men and material might be safely landed, and where but little opposition could be offered; but although united to Sebastopol by a good road, this is in many places cut out of the face of the perpendicular rock, and could not only be defended by the enemy with facility, but a few hours' work would render it quite impassable."

"Between Yalta and Balaklava, on the southern coast, there is no available point; but if the latter port could be taken, and the surrounding heights secured, every requisite for advantageously carrying on operations against Sebastopol would be at once obtained. Distant only about ten miles from that town, and connected with it by an excellent road, Balaklava so infinitely surpasses all other places for the attainment of the object in view, that there cannot be two opinions on the importance of possessing it, and its admirable harbour would be of incalculable value to the fleets."

"Nature has, however, made it so strong, that if the Russians have fully availed themselves of the facilities for defence, it might become a work of some difficulty to dislodge them; but it is very doubtful whether they have had sufficient time to erect batteries which could hold out long against the force that could be brought to bear on them."

"Supposing the whole of the batteries defending the harbour to be destroyed, no ships could enter with safety until all the positions on the heights which surround and overhang it had been carried."

"The coast between Balaklava and Cape Chersonesus being abrupt and precipitous, furnishes no suitable localities for the required purpose, but some of the bays on the northern boundary of the Chersonesian peninsula may possibly be found available."

"Were the allied armies in possession of the Chersonesus, they would find plenty of water, for there are two good sources towards Balaklava, though independent of it. One of these has been carried by an aqueduct to Sebastopol, and supplies the reservoir, near the public gardens of that place. Destroying this aqueduct would be of no service towards reducing the town, as that from Inkerman would still remain, and the great fitting basin contains an immense quantity; besides which there are wells and some small streams at the head of the military harbour, whence the place formerly drew its only, though not very plentiful, supply."

"Another plan for attacking Sebastopol might be adopted by landing, to the north of the bay of Inkerman, destroying or taking Fort Constantine, and the other batteries from the rear, and thence bombarding the naval arsenal, the town, and ships; and, indeed, this is the only alternative, if a footing cannot be effected in the Chersonesus."

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—GOETHE.

UNDERSTAFF.

II.

"AM sorry, indeed," said John Smith, "that I can only tell the story of this quiet ring in a very condensed form. I came by it strangely. I took it without leave; it was given to me by a person I never saw; I have the best right to it of anybody; and the only challenge to my right that I have to fear would come from a Genoese priest." And with this he was silent.

The rest remained silent too, Mr. Jarrett continuing to survey the narrator with his unbroken air of hospitable satisfaction, the fair Amy and her companions perplexed, while Dutton's pale face was spiteful with mortification.

"Oh! Mr. Smith," cried the hostess, "you do not mean that *that* is your story. Then you are a very unfair man."

"I am grieved to incur the displeasure of so fair a lady, but indeed the rest must not be told, at least for the present. I may require some advice touching my share in acquiring this small piece of property, and if I might venture to intrude personal affairs upon Mr. Jarrett, I know no man so capable of giving sound and kind counsel."

Jarrett bowed magnificently, and at once aided his guest by changing the conversation.

Dutton acknowledged that Smith was more of a man than he had taken him for. He believed indeed with Jarrett what Jarrett believed no longer—but Dutton was apt to arrive at an opinion after bolder and more vigorous men had left it—that this development of Smith's character was recent. And instead of increasing his respect, it only exasperated his spite, and justified it; for he took his own undiscovery of Smith's capacity for an act of treachery on the part of the clerk, who, like Junius Brutus, must have concealed his talents. Perseverance, therefore, was incited; and Dutton recommenced his quest at once. He looked out for instruments, and saw one ready made in the confiding but diffident Amy, trusting and jealous; he paid her "attentions," which she received with the grateful air of a neglected woman; and Smith, who liked to see the gentle Amy appreciated, felt an unwonted benevolence towards the disagreeable Dutton. It turned out a delightful party for all engaged. Jarrett had enjoyed his own hospitality, and had forwarded his never-forgotten business by making his partner know his place and encouraging his man. The gentle Amy carried home a new sorrow to spice the monotony of her quietude; one of those sorrows which she kept in her reticule, for evenings, with her knitting-needles and her handkerchief. Dutton alone had made the least of his evening; yet he had got a new impulse.

The latent power that he had discovered in Smith confirmed his suspicion of treachery; and his own supplanting now stared him in the face, unless he exerted himself to counteract it; for he could not conceive the existence of power, unless exercised for selfish objects. He resolved, therefore, to meet enmity with enmity, treachery with treachery: he made Smith's acquaintance personally. This enabled him better to watch his enemy, and accounted for his being occasionally found near Roncesvalles Cottages.

He continued his attentions to Amy, and with wonderful celerity won her confidence; for the woman who is not strong enough to keep up with her companion often falls into the demoralised condition of the straggler behind an army, and is content with any stray companion, especially a compassionate one. Nor do women take the time that most men allot to the task of gaining their confidence, for the motives of women are fewer than those of men; and hence the latter over-calculate the outworks of the fortress. Amy, too, was suddenly exalted to a distinguished position. She had two admirers—was contended for: how quick the slowest woman is to discover *that*! One of her admirers was a person of distinction—one of the Duttons: how quick the tradesman was to disclose that! He poised her admiration, for the fact helped to nail that coveted disgrace upon his spurious shield. How will some of us create a real part of our lives, a real portion of our objects and sensations, on some purely imaginary ground. For the first time in his life Dutton was "in love:" yes, a shadow of the passion penetrated his soul, as a ray of sun enters the lowest and darkest cellar. But no woman had ever before shown a real regard for him—certainly no woman with Amy's pretensions to accomplishments and grace—though it was Brixton grace. So what with bar sinister, tears, and secrecy, so much as there was of heart in Dutton was called forth; and the man gained a new sincerity in his designs on Smith—a new, a "higher motive," to crush and supplant a dreaded rival in business.

Of course the astute Co. was not to be put off by the pretended story of the ring. His duty to Amy now called upon him "to unmask the villain." Amy indeed, with the fidelity to be expected from her purity, persisted in disbelieving anything ill of John; and Dutton, who would never have dared to tempt any woman's virtue, left her in the admired possession of her truth, "until he could fairly claim her." The happy pair really persuaded themselves by this time that they were wronged, were self-denying, spotless; and Dutton really intended to marry her, at any rate. To say nothing of his love, he had observed that she was prudent and saving.

So it was his settled enterprise to discover a villany in Smith. To that old quest, newly sanctioned, he lent his best energies, though he sacrificed to it an evening with his Amy, or came to business with a head-ache.

There was only one difficulty about it: he could not walk nearly so fast as Smith. He had, indeed, no previous idea that any private and respectable person could, habitually, execute the feats with which Smith daily baffled him. He followed Smith to Clapham, the "rise," notwithstanding, but could not reach Tooting; he waited at Clapham, and followed to Tooting—but Merton was too far; he stopped at Merton, but then the long stretch to Ewell afforded neither shelter nor resting-place; yet Smith dashed

down the hill as if he had just left home. Many evenings were spent thus before the quick wit of genius suggested the going to Epsom by rail, and waiting at the London road end of the sporting town. Alas! Smith came not. He must stop, then, at Ewell; and Dutton posted himself at Ewell; but no Smith arrived. Dutton got a map of London and its environs, but could not from that learn which road Smith branched off at. What, then, to do next. To walk further on towards London? No, he must be recognised, thus exposed on a clear road; besides, there were rough characters occasionally, and Dutton relished not a solitary road at night: a new reason why he hated Smith.

Weeks rolled on—months.

Further reason why Smith's hateful character came out in stronger relief: the fatigue wearied and jaded Dutton, although gentlemen stand fatigue better than plebeians; but Smith grew manifestly stouter, readier in limb, hale in colour, quick in word and wit. Jarrett trusted him more and more. He ascribed Dutton's manifest watchfulness to jealousy; and, as it amused him, fed it. Smith himself began to see a partnership in prospect, and Amy sighed to think that his heart was "hardening with success, as most men's do;" but then Dutton was "a gentleman by birth, and, whatever people may say, that does make a difference."

Weeks passed, and winter came; but still, three times a week, if not four, Smith trod the road, varying it occasionally with the railway. At last, although it was so hazardous and so expensive, Dutton indulged a long-desired coup, and took a Hansom cab to "follow that gentleman." The result was, that half way between Merton and Ewell, the Hansom man declared himself damned if he could follow a Jack-o'-lantern. Nay, as Dutton entertained a different view of the case, the man grew insolent; it was dark, stormy, and solitary; and the sparing Co. actually paid, not only the sovereign included in the guinea of which he denied half, but another sovereign in lieu of the shilling. He remembered this just as the cabman drove off and left him to find his way back to Merton, misanthropical, alarmed, and deeply detesting the lawless Smith.

Winter passed, spring came; loud sang Cuckoo; and Dutton resumed those arduous journeys which Smith had never suspended. "How good of you!" sighed Amy, for they now reciprocated unreserved confidence. The circle of country whose circumference Dutton centripetally described, and with whose centre Smith was familiar, was gradually contracting as the evenings lengthened, and the air grew less severe.

This incident suggested to Dutton the question whether he should not engage a companion to aid and guard him in his search; but he would trust no man. At last he found the place where Smith left the main road, and by day he reconnoitred the country, which then looked cheerful enough, and presented, just in that part, few buildings that could distract his attention. He felt that he was drawing near to the end of his labour, and had indeed already acquired unexpected charms. So true it is that any active pursuit, especially if it involve danger, or supposed danger, strengthens the mind and gives new zest to existence. Already Dutton, junior, in the eminent firm of Parkes, Jarrett and Co., was in love, was beloved, and was adventuring bravely the perils of a knightly quest in the dark to track a "villain." He felt bold, imposing, worth something.

His boldness indeed sank into his boots one evening when, in the very solitude and silence of a windy night, a human being seemed suddenly to emerge from the silence and pass him; but the passenger seemed neither to see nor hear him in the dusk and wind. Dutton was more keenly on the watch, and he recognised Smith. He had then tracked him close near to one of three cottages which stood near the fork of the lane, and presently he ascertained that one of them was *not* the cottage, for as he approached it he lost sight of the marked man.

Next time he was still more startled by another man, whose movements caused him some anxiety. It was not very near the two cottages, not even far down the lane, and the stranger seemed to be awaiting some one. He was a slender, active man; might be in the army; careless in manner, and in the dusk looked as if his handsome face was rendered sterner by beard on the upper lip. He might be an officer, or a member of the swell mob who had tracked the junior partner in Parkes, Jarrett, and Co.? Or a spy set by Smith? Dutton astutely passed by the lane without turning down it; and afterwards returned straight back to Ewell, and so to town by rail.

Next time the lane was a desert; the night was calm and dark; the moon, about to rise, sent out a vague light over the cloudless sky which guided the pursuer to the open space between the dark foliage already looking solid in the slender light. He went quietly and cautiously. He neared the two cottages. All was silent. He went beyond. He peered into every corner. The seeing nought did not baffle or weary him, he *should* see something sooner or later. And he did. At a stile, which he had more than once gazed upon before vainly, the sight of two figures, more motionless than the shrubs of the hedge, dawned upon his eyes. He kept in the shade and, cat-like, approached, only anxious that they should not hear his heart.

Yes, at last he had his reward. Seated on the stile was a woman; the man standing by her was Smith: so much Dutton soon made out. It was a young woman—a lady—more or less graceful; that was the next series of facts described by the lurking spy. Smith's arm must be round her waist, his other hand held hers. It looked as if—yes, it was!—her other hand as on his shoulder; her arm must be round his neck. They talked, and earnestly, but in whispers which only they could hear. Suspicious fact! Dutton remembered that Lord Brougham, in a case of *crim. con.*, had pronounced silence, or whispering, to be a very suspicious fact. There was no one, they must think, to hear them, and yet they whispered. Why do "people" always whisper, even when perfectly alone? Is it because having dreaded eavesdroppers they contract the habit of concealment, and cannot break it. Fool! he did not know that where eavesdroppers *cannot* be—where the beating heart rings upon the ear that listens at its walls—the voice is still in whispers; partly perhaps from the sense of reverence which sustains love—partly from a willing surrender to power—partly not to break the harmony of the converse where the voice is only one among other channels of interchanged thought, so that the tongue shall not speak louder than the pulse, or usurp the converse of the eyes.

But Dutton, thus profanely watching, was perplexed. Astounding as the

fact was, there was not a kiss exchanged, or taken! Not one. Only when Smith lifted the lady down from her seat—and she almost as much stepped down, with a light and graceful agility, and then Dutton saw that she was tall and slender, and graceful as a stag—Smith respectfully raised her hand to his lips, unresisted, unproved, even by the calm and lovely countenance shaded from the bright moon by its own waving hair, as it looked down upon him. And they went into the cottage.

Enough for that night! Dutton had tracked the villain; he had something to tell the injured Amy; he was laden with spoil, justified in all he suspected, in all he intended. At peace with himself, he lay down to rest reflecting on the blessing of sleep that attends on exercise and undisturbed conscience.

VIVIAN EN VOYAGE.

I.

RATS AND TRAVELLERS—ON THE SICK LIST—WOMEN: BELGIAN AND GERMAN. Weimar, Sept. 16.

The Greeks and Romans knew but of one Rat, and that was a Mouse; a fact, *ami lecteur*, which may interest you beyond the application here to be made of it. How the ancients managed without that amiable Rodent, I know not; but as their Cat was a Weasel, they may very well have contented themselves with a Mouse for their sole Rat. If you want to puzzle a pundit, ask him what the Greek for Rat or for Cat is: he will look foolish, and you will chuckle.

These unhappy ancients must have been overrun with Mice; and it is not till the Middle Ages that the empire of the Mice becomes threatened by the apparition of the Black Rat, whose birthplace is a mystery, but whose ferocity and fecundity soon drives the Mouse into his long narrow galleries, where alone he is safe. The European world was divided between the Mouse and the Black Rat until the beginning of the eighteenth century, when a new Rat, by Buffon named *Surmulot*, was brought over from India, and instantly commenced internecine war against the Black Rat. This new warrior, being equally at home on land and water, gradually spread over Europe, the Black Rat disappearing before him, as the Red Man disappears before the White. At the time when Buffon wrote, the new Rat was only found in the environs of Paris; it had not appeared in the city where now it holds undisputed sway. In a few years the Black Rat will be but a name!

Now for the moral. Just as one species of Rat has given way before another and a stronger species, one class of travellers, or travel-writers, has disappeared before another. When it was distinction to have made the Grand Tour, when to speak French and not be mistaken for an Iroquois was a perilous amount of culture, of course the simplest recital of a journey was received as an entertaining performance, and a trip to Paris furnished a quarto volume. That will no longer satisfy the cravings of a public:

"Zwar sind sie an das Beste nicht gewöhnt:
Allein sie haben schrecklich viel gelesen."

"They are not, it is true, accustomed to excellence, but they have read such a frightful quantity!" They read now as many ascents of Mont Blanc as their forefathers read trips to Calais. The Pyramids have become commonplace. Europe and the East have been thoroughly "used up." The political traveller, the historical traveller, the statistical traveller, the geological traveller, the zoological traveller, the traveller with black whiskers and large shirt-collars, who produced a "delightful volume of truly Christian travel,"—have one by one poured down upon an unoffending public, and swept away the Sentimental Traveller, who is now becoming as rare as the Black Rat.

It may be that Europe itself is no longer sentimental. For my own part, I solemnly declare, that, although I entered Belgium with the best dispositions for the accumulation of materials to furnish forth a series of Sentimental Papers, especially addressed to those female readers who have the weakness to be also the admirers of Vivian (how charming are all feminine weaknesses!), yet no such materials presented themselves. Not a single dead *As met my gaze*. They were all living! Then the women! Belgium and Germany have shown me some hundreds of *Bimanas*, who are, or are to be given in marriage; but of "women" an alarming scarcity. One cannot conceive oneself reduced to such a state of *désœuvrement* as to make love to these Dulcineas. "*Belgian women*" is a misprint—Nature wrote *Bulgian*, as I perceive from the bulky grace of their *bathukolpic* forms. It seemed to me as if Nature had endeavoured to compensate for the flatness of the country by the reverse of that characteristic in the women—taking out in breadth what is wanted in height—substituting prominences for eminences. And as for the German women, they are worse! If no Anacreon would become dithyrambic over the charms of his *κοῦρὴς βαθυκόλπου* here, as in Belgium, no man with any finer sensibility than a German could endure the voices. Shakespeare, who loved woman's voice "gentle and low," would have been driven away by the astounding discords of unlovely woman in these parts; and a less fastidious lover of the sex may meekly protest against the too philosophic condition of the hair and nails of these uncharming charmers. Coarse skins and discrepant teeth may be misfortunes, but a nailbrush is not a luxury only to be met with among pampered aristocrats.

The genius of a people is seen in the language. Idioms betray tendencies. Perhaps it is not without profound significance that the German idiom "to wash anybody's head" expresses a severe punishment. We, brutal Britons, when we flagellate a stupid author, call it "cutting him up." The cleaner Teuton "washes his head." When a dingy professor, chuckling, tells you of an antagonist, *Ich hab' ihm den Kopf gewaschen!* you may be sure that terrible work has been going on among the notes and emendations.

While on this subject, I may note that Chrysostom, in his splendid "Exegesis of the Revelations," calls our attention to the profound symbolical meaning of the Saints being arrayed in *clean linen*. Unwilling as I am to question any passage in a Christian Father, I cannot forbear suggesting that the stress

laid upon *clean linen* looks very like an habitual economy in washing bills. These Jews were certainly Germans!

German women, therefore, you may suppose have not captivated me.

Perhaps, after all, the fault is less in them than in the condition of their critic. A dilapidated Vivian, with his whiskers sadly out of curl, the "unobserved of all observers," dragging his weary way through healthy, happy scenes, carrying within him the fatal consequences of too close a study of the Fathers, in the shape of a congested brain, which depressed and incapacitated him, at the same time that it surrounded him with no halo of interest, such as consumption or a broken limb would create—such a Vivian, I say, may well be suspected in any criticism passed upon the sex. I will believe it is so! I will think the Belgians are antelopes (slightly adipose), and the Germans sweet-voiced, elegant, and spiritual. But you must expect no Sentimental Journey from me. Enough if I can write an occasional letter with some news about a celebrated man or woman, a new opera, a good picture, or any other topic which possibly may interest you. Ah, dear reader! when I think of the happy hours passed in writing gaieties for your amusement, and contrast them with my present forced idleness, a gloom steals over me, such as Dante indicates in the *nessun maggior dolore*, which once read is never forgotten. And it is to you that are offered the first feeble efforts of one who "wrote not wisely, but too well."

Next week you shall hear about Franz Liszt.

II.

FRANZ LISZT.

Weimar, 22nd September.

According to my promise, last week, I select from out the hasty pencil notes of my diary the name of a man of genius, a name familiar enough in England, although the man is little known; Franz Liszt, who as "Master Liszt" played before George IV. and astounded "the world," and who as Liszt has made his noise in Europe, now playing as no one ever played before or since, now writing articles and criticisms, now undertaking a year of concerts, the whole proceeds of which were to be given to fill up the deficit of subscriptions to the Beethoven monument.

I knew him fifteen years ago in Vienna, in the height of his popularity, in the maddest of all mad enthusiasms, a Viennese *furor*, when the women showed you with pride the bracelets made from the pianoforte strings he had broken; when everybody had some new anecdote of his capriciousness, coxcombry, or generosity; when, as I was gravely informed, the very milk in the next room turned sour at the thunder of his *pastorale*; when, in short, he was in such an unhealthy condition, that everyone who could calmly look forward, must have foreseen he would be ruined by flattery—a prediction which the event has falsified—for here he is, in this quiet Weimar, leading the quietest of lives; grave, serious, and happy, entering on a new phase of existence; strong in conviction, happy in affection, resolute in ambition—

Strong in will

To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

As great a change has taken place in his personal appearance as in his way of life. A streak of silver in his lion's mane gently indicates the pressure of Time. He has passed into the forties. The turbulence of youth, with its eager activity, lust for excitement, and prodigal expenditure of life, has given place to a graver bearing, not without a touch of that sadness which mingles with the sunset, but also not without its ineffable charm. I think Liszt has now one of the grandest heads to be met with among artists; formerly I did not think him handsome. He has acquired more force, and more refinement, too, with age; the build of his head has acquired solidity; the working of his mind has wrought the features into finer and more delicate expression; for while the cut of his features is bold, their lines severe, sculpturesque in relief, they are no less remarkable for the tenderness and even feminine gentleness which may be seen in the face of almost every man of genius.

Die Gestalt des Menschen, says Goethe, *ist der Text zu alles was über ihm empfinden und sagen lässt*: Man's personal appearance is the text to all that can be felt or said of him. This is doubtless true in all cases; but it is not in all cases that the *moral* of a man is thus cut in relief, so that we can read his character in such characteristics. In Liszt, however, there seems to me a complete accordance between the physical and moral. You cannot look at him for three minutes without being aware of the presence of a man of genius. You are also aware of something capricious, coxcombical, wayward, dreamy; something uneasy—as if the intellect was not commensurate with the feelings—as if his whole mind was burdened with the weight of more than it could express—as if his *aspiration* was greater than his *inspiration*.

Liszt is Kapellmeister to the Grand Duke. It is true he is the great personage here at Weimar, after the Grand Duke; but still one may well ask what attraction there can be powerful enough to lure the spoiled child of a European public, from the arena of applause, from the centres of life and intelligence, to settle down in this grand ducal village. It cannot be money: Liszt would earn more in a month at Paris or London than I should suppose a year's income as Kapellmeister would amount to. It cannot be the society of Weimar, for he lives very retired. The mystery is explained when one gets to learn what his occupations are and have been during the last six years. A new phase of existence succeeds the noisy popularity of his earlier years. The great pianist has given up performing. Occasionally, "for love," he will play, and play as he seldom played in public; but "for money" he plays no more. He has taken to composition—taken to it heart and soul, with the devotion of genius, and the passionate labour of intense conviction. Not only in his own person has he given his life to composition, but all his sympathy, activity, and influence are devoted to the furtherance of what he believes to be the true ideas of art. Thus, while writing symphonies for himself, he has been scarcely less active in trying to create a public for Wagner. It is a noble trait in him, that, unacquainted with Wagner, he became inspired with that fanaticism which has made Wagner's name a watchword, and Weimar the German town where Wagner's operas can be heard. Not only does Liszt superintend the production of these operas, forcing them through, in spite of the prejudice, cabals, and it must be confessed, not a little ennui, making the public respect these works whether it likes them or likes them not; but he also, in the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* (which is the *Moniteur* of the Romantic School in Music), as well as in

independent Essays, propagates the Wagner ideas, both by exposition and by criticism of other composers. Of the real merit of Wagner I have not as yet a word to say, not having heard the operas; but on the subject of Liszt's enthusiasm for what he believes to be a new development of the Art, there can be but one feeling—admiration.

Thus does he nobly fill the quiet leisure of this new period, leaving behind him all the gaieties and distractions of an artist's public life, in the hope of doing something which the world will not willingly let die. Loved, almost worshipped, by those who live in intimacy with him, he can afford to remain

in this obscurity. Applause he has had enough of; he now strives for something more elevated, more enduring. What may be the result of his strivings it is impossible to say; but I cannot help thinking that he will do more good to act by his example and by his influence than if he had continued astonishing concert-rooms as a pianist.

In one of his articles in the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* he has given an admirable critique of Meyerbeer and his school, that next week I will reproduce the leading traits, and thus try to introduce you to the Wagner point of view.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, September 19.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—J. BRAGO, Bernondsey-wall, Bernondsey, line and brick merchant—W. DUNDAS, Clidridge-place, Westbourne-park-road, Paddington, house decorator.

BANKRUPTS.—E. HEATH, Bridge-house-place, Newington-causway, leather and shoe mercer—J. CLARK, New Cavendish-street, Portland-place, and Upper Marylebone-street, surgeon—ELIZA MARY AGER, Victoria-terrace, Kensington, baker—H. J. STEWART, Jernyn-street, hotel and tavern keeper—W. CHOLE, jun., Wood-lane, City, East India merchant—W. BOLLASCO, jun., Birmingham, tin plate worker—C. DOODY, Stoke-upon-Trent, tailor—J. MOATS, sen., Spalding, Lincolnshire, coal merchant—G. GILLIAT, Barnsley, Yorkshire, confectioner—J. SWALES, Openshaw, Lancashire, ironmonger and builder.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. and P. BOAG, Leith, wool dealers—S. M. F. Blair, Glasgow, coal agent—G. BUSH, Glasgow, warehouseman—BARCLAY and KENNEDY, Glasgow, plumbers—J. B. BARCLAY and Co., Calton, Glasgow, plumbers.

Friday, September 22.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—MICHAEL NEVILLE, Liverpool, brassfounder—GEORGE EDWARDS, Newport, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.—JAMES SANDERS, Paddington-green, corn-dealer—JOSEPH WHITMORE, Leicester, wool-stapler—WILLIAM CLARK, Gloucester, licensed victualler—MICHAEL AVERTIS STUBBS, Llanston, Cornwall, gasman—factory and leather merchant—FREDERICK KERSHAW, Sheffield, builder—CHARLES HICKMAN, Knightsbridge, licensed victualler—WILLIAM WEST, Hackney-road, linen draper—WILLIAM WALKER, Manchester, builder—JOHN HARWARD, Blackburn, tailor and draper—SAMUEL CLEGG, Crawford-street, near Rochdale, blacksmith—THOMAS ROBERTS, Manchester, ironmonger—WILLIAM ROBERTSON, Lincolne, shipowner—JONATHAN SMART, Sadron Walden, cabinet-maker—JOSEPH CAWLEY, Michael's-place, Brompton, upholsterer—HENRY BASIL BRAY, Coventry, grocer.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BOYLE.—September 17, at Marston Rectory, the Hon. Mrs. Richard Boyle: a son.

BRUCE.—September 17, at 9, Victoria-square, Grosvenor-place, the wife of W. Downing Bruce, Esq., K.C.S., F.S.A.: of Lincoln's-inn, barrister-at-law: a daughter.

PONSONBY.—13, at the vicarage, Canford, the Lady Louisa Ponsonby: a son.

ROCHE.—September 15, at Trillick, county Cork, the wife of Edmund Roche Roche, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.

SCOTT.—September 17, at 6, Southwick-crescent, Hyde-park, the wife of Sir Sibbald David Scott, Bart.: a son.

TALBOT.—September 14, at Malahide Castle, the Lady Talbot de Malahide: a son.

MARRIAGES.

ANDERSON.—WOOD.—September 19, at St. James's, Poole, David Greenhill Anderson, Lieutenant in the Bombay Artillery, third son of Sir George W. Anderson, K.C.B., to Frances Mary, only surviving daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Mundy Wood, Secretary to the Bombay Government.

BARRY.—MAY.—September 14, at St. David's Church, Exeter, Charles Barry, Esq., eldest son of Sir Charles Barry, R.A., to Harriett Pittman, youngest daughter of Thomas May, Esq., of Northernhay, Exeter.

HAMILTON.—ABERCOMBY.—September 19, at Forghen House, county of Banff, Alexander Henry Abercomby Hamilton, Esq., second surviving son of the deceased Alexander Hamilton Hamilton, Esq., of the Rectory, Topham, Devonshire, to Sophia Anne Adelaide, fifth surviving daughter of Sir Robert Abercomby, Baronet, of Biskinboe and Forghen, Banffshire.

PARKYNS.—BETHELL.—September 14, at Winalade Church, Mansfield Parkyuns, Esq., of Woodborough, Notts, to Emma Louisa, third daughter of Sir Richard Bethell, her Majesty's Solicitor-General.

DEATHS.

BATHE.—September 14, at 27A, Portman-square, Mary, the wife of Sir W. F. de Bathe, Bart.

BOYLE.—September 3, at Varna Bay, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Robert Boyle, M.P., Coldstream Guards, second surviving son of the Earl of Cork and Orrery.

GORE.—August 4, suddenly, at Monte Video, Captain the Hon. Robert Gore, R.N., aged forty-four, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, to the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata.

LISTON.—September 19, at her residence, Brompton-crescent, Mrs. Liston, relict of the late John Liston, Esq.

MURRAY.—At the Rectory House, Southdean, the Rev. George Edward Murray, eldest son of the Lord Bishop of Rochester.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, September 22, 1854.

CONSOLES opened this morning 95 1/2, and remained at that price until mid-day, when they went 95 1/2, afterwards 95 1/4, closing 95 1/4 for account, and 95 1/4 for money. Exchequer-bills 6, 9 pm. The share-market this week has been somewhat flatter, although funds have attained higher quotations during the week than last past. News is daily looked for from Sebastopol, and until such arrives the present inaction in the market may continue. Turkish Six per Cent. scrip was first quoted ex new, on Monday, at 31 3/4, to-day 31 3/4, the last day for payment of the second instalment of 15 per cent. lapsed to-day; the third, of 20 per cent. falling due on the 20th of October next, for prompt payments in anticipation 5 per cent. discount is allowed. The following leading quotations will give the best idea of the state of the market:—

Caledonians, 63, 66; Eastern Counties, 111, 121; Great Northern, 88, 89; Great Southern and Western (Ireland),

91, 95; Great Western, 73 1/2, 73; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 72 1/2, 73; London and Blackwall, 84, 81; London and Brighton, 103, 105; London and North-Western, 102 1/2, 103; London and South-Western, 84, 86; Midlands, 70 1/2, 71 1/2; North British, 32 1/2, 33 1/2; North-Eastern (Berwick), 78, 79; North-London, 34, 36; North-Western, 64, 7; Scottish Central, 97, 99; South-Eastern, 64, 65; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 64, 71; Great Central France, 4 1/2, 5; Eastern France, 32 1/2, 33; Great Luxembourg, Constituted, 2 1/2, 2 1/2; Ditto, Obligations, 24, 25; Madras, par to 3 pm.; Namur and Liege, 7 1/2 (with interest); Northern France, 34 1/2, 34 1/2; Paris and Lyons, 194, 194 1/2; Paris and Orleans, 48, 50; Paris and Rouen, 38, 40; Rouen and Havre, 23 1/2, 23 1/2; West Flanders, 3 1/2, 4; Zealand, 16, 17; Agua Fria, 3, 1 1/2; Colonial, 4, 2; Suggett's, 4, 4; Idmaras, 8, 9; Australian Agricultural, 42, 44; Van Diemen's Land, 124 1/2, 124 1/2.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, September 23. The supplies of all Grain during the week have been insignificant, and the value of Wheat has been well maintained, though the demand is again more confined to the supply of immediate wants than it was before the recent advance. Though the demand for Oats is also restricted within the smallest possible compass, the shortness of the arrival has caused a further advance of 6d. in the value of this Grain. The demand for floating cargoes of Barley for the Continent, and some purchases which have been made on the spot for shipment, have caused an improvement in price of 6d. to 1s. per quart.

From Statin we learn that the demand from the interior continues, and prices are consequently kept too high for any chance of business at present with this country.

At Rostock the report of the recent advance in the value of Wheat here had caused an advance to some, though not to an equal extent. The holders of Floating Cargoes in London require prices which have greatly checked business, notwithstanding which, some cargoes of Egyptian Wheat and Barley have been sold, the former with one exception to the United Kingdom, the latter to the Continent. The sales have been—1 cargo of Saidi Wheat 38s., 1 a very superior cargo of the same at 40s., 1 of Beheera at 36s., and 1 at 38s. 6d.—the latter was the one sold to the Continent, the buyer to pay the extra freight. Two cargoes of Egyptian Barley at 21s. cost, freight, and insurance to the Continent, and one cargo of Ordon Maize at 35s. cost, freight, and insurance all arrived. There have been no sales of cargoes on passage.

A cargo of Galatz Wheat has been sold at 55s., another of Alexandria Maize 38s. 6d., and another of African Barley at 22s., all cost, freight, and insurance—the latter to the Continent.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
3 per Cent. Cons. An.	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
Consols for Account	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
New 2 1/2 per Cent.	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
Long Ans. 1850	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
India Stock	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Ditto Bonds, £1000	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Ditto, under £1000	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Ex. Bills, £1000	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Ditto, £500	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Ditto, Small	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)	
Brazilian Bonds	101 1/2
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	104 1/2
Chilian 6 per Cents.	104 1/2
Danish 5 per Cents.	104 1/2
Escudor Bonds	24 1/2
Mexican 3 per Cents.	24 1/2
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc., Sep. 29	24 1/2
Portuguese 4 per Cents.	40 1/2
Portuguese 5 per Cents.	40 1/2
Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents 1852	88
Russian 4 1/2 per Cents.	88
Spanish 3 1/2 per Ct. New Def.	15 1/2
Spanish Committee Cert.	5
of Coup. not fun.	5
Venezuela 3 1/2 per Cents.	62 1/2
Belgian 4 1/2 per Cents.	62 1/2
Dutch 2 1/2 per Cents.	62 1/2
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	94 1/2

AMUSEMENT AND SCIENCE COMBINED.—DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM (800 Anatomical Wax Figures), (Top of Haymarket), PICCADILLY. Open for Gentlemen from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. New Lectures at Twelve, Two, Four, and Half-past Seven in the Evening, by Dr. SEXTON, F.R.G.S. On Wednesdays and Fridays a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five. Lectures at Three, by Mrs. SEXTON. Gentlemen are still admitted on those days from Eleven till Two, and from Seven till Ten. Admission, One Shilling.

N.B. Dr. Kahn executes orders for Anatomical Wax Models at the shortest possible notice, upon the most advantageous terms. All letters addressed as above.

TURKISH EXHIBITION AND MUSEUM, HYDE PARK CORNER.—Ten Months having been devoted to the most elaborate preparation and careful arrangement for this superb and unique Collection of Models from Life, illustrating the Turkish Nation, "Past and Present," realised by Correct Costume, including every minute detail of Arms, &c., is now completed, and Exhibited at the ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE PARK CORNER, PICCADILLY.—OPEN DAILY, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., with the exception of Saturday, when it will be closed at 6 p.m.

Price of Admission 5s. 6d.; Children, 1s. 6d.; Family Tickets (admitting five persons), 10s.; on Saturdays, 5s.; Children, 2s. 6d. Schools admitted at Half-price. Family Tickets may be previously secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.—A Hand Book to the Exhibition is published, with illustrations, Price 1s.

For Kalamy and his Band are engaged, and will perform daily from 12 till 5.

DUTY OFF TEA.—THE REDUCTION

of the TEA DUTY, and the easy state of the Tea-market, enables PHILLIPS and Company to SELL—Strong Congou Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., and 3s. Rich Souchong Tea, 3s. 2d., 3s. 4d., and 3s. 6d. The Best Assam Pekoe Souchong Tea, 4s. Prime Gunpowder Tea, 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 6d. Best Mysore Gunpowder, 4s. 8d. The Best Pearl Gunpowder, 5s. Prime Coffee, 1s., 1s. 2d., and 1s. 3d. The Best Mocha and the Best West India Coffee 1s. 4d. Sugars are supplied at market prices. All goods sent carriage free, by our own vans, if within eight miles. Teas, coffees, and spices sent carriage free to any railway station or market-town in England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, & Sugar William-street, City, London. A general price-current sent free on application.

ANOTHER REDUCTION OF FOUR

PENCE THE POUND IN THE DUTY ON TEA.—In accordance with our usual practice of always being FIRST to give the Public the full ADVANTAGE of every REDUCTION in the value of our goods, we have at once lowered the prices of all our Teas to fullest extent of the REDUCTION OF DUTY; and we are determined, so far as we are concerned, that the Public shall reap the full benefit of this act of the Government.

	s.	d.
The Best Pekoe Congou	3	8 the pound.
Strong Breakfast ditto	3	0 "
Good sound ditto	2	8 "
Choice Gunpowder	4	8 "
Finest Young Hyson	4	4 "
Good Plantation Coffee	1	0 "
Cuba, Jamaica or Costa Rica	1	4 "
Choice old Mocha	1	0 "
The Best Homoeopathic Cocoa	1	0 "

For the convenience of our numerous customers, we retail the finest West India and Refined Sugars at market prices.

All goods delivered by our own vans, free of charge, within eight miles of London. Parcels of Tea and Coffee, of the value of Two Pounds sterling, are sent, carriage free, to any part of England.

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CRYSTAL PALACE, MUSICAL IN-

STRUMENT COURT.—Mr. Wm. REA has the honour to announce to the Nobility and Gentry that he will next Saturday, perform a series of compositions on the New Repetition Grand Cottage Pianoforte, Manufactured and Exhibited by MESSRS. LEVESQUE, EDMUNDS, and CO., of 40, Cheapside. To commence at Three o'clock.

THE PEN SUPERSEDED.—THE MOST

elegant, easy, economical, and best method of MARKING LINEN, SILK, BOOKS, &c., without the ink smearing or fading, is with the INCORRODIBLE ARGENTINE PLATES. No preparation required. Any person can use them with the greatest facility. Name, 2s.; Laidle, 1s. 6d.; Numbers, per set, 2s. 6d.; Crest, 5s. Sent, post free, with directions, for stamps or post order.

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Prevented by the destruction of all noxious effluvia. CREW'S DISINFECTING FLUID, recommended by the College of Physicians, the Cheapest and strongest Chloride of Zinc Quarts, 2s.; pints, 1s.; half-pints, 6d. Sold by all Chemists, Druggists, and Shipping Agents, and at Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

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been restored with many others to robust health after long suffering from Debility, and general weakness, and being anxious to make known the means of cure, will send free, on receipt of an addressed stamped envelope, a copy of the prescription used.

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OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA. This is, of all known remedies, the most pure, safe, active, and efficacious in the purification of the blood of all morbid matter, of bile, urea, acids, scrofulous substances, humours of all kinds, which produce rashes, eruptions, skin rheum, erysipelas, scald head, sore eyes, eruptions, sore throat and ulcers, and sores on any part of the body. It is unsurpassed in its action upon the liver, the lungs, and the stomach, removing any cause of disease from those organs, and expelling all humours from the system. By cleansing the blood, it for ever prevents pustules, sores, pimples and every variety of sores on the face and breast. It is a great tonic, and imparts strength and vigour to the debilitated and weak, gives rest and refreshing sleep to the nervous and restless invalid. It is a great female remedy, and will cure more complaints peculiar to the sex than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 373, Strand, adjoining, Exeter-Hall: POMEROY, ANDREWS, and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 4s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mammoth, 11s.

CHOLERA ORPHANS.—In 1849, when the Cholera was last here, a Home was opened for Orphans, now called the National Orphan Home, on Ham Common, near Richmond. Nearly Forty thus left have since that time been clothed, boarded, and educated. The Committee have resolved to admit immediately a large number, if the Benevolence of the public will furnish them with the means. Possessing two acres of land, through the munificence of a friend, as well as a house now left, but which can be at once occupied by Thirty more Orphans if they had the means, the Committee earnestly place the case before the public, especially the Clergy, as it is probable collections will be made at the approaching Thanksgiving to the Almighty for such an abundant harvest.

Every information will be given by the Honorary Secretary, the Reverend Joseph Brown, Rector of Christ Church, Blackfriars-road, and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Collings, 17, Gillingham-street, Piccadilly.

Donations and Subscriptions may be forwarded to the Treasurer, H. Kingscote, Esq., the Honorary Secretary, or to the account of the National Orphan Home, London and Westminster Bank City; also to Daltons, Cockspur-street; Wootton's Bank City; Nisbets, Berners-street; Livingstons, Hatfield, Herts; and Waterloo place, Pall-mall; Seeley, 54 Fleet-street, and Hanover-street, Hanover-square.

FRENCH MODERATOR LAMPS.—A very large and superior stock now ON SALE at DEANE, DRAY, and Co.'s (Opening to the Monument), London Bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

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Tea Spoons, per dozen	15s.	30s.	32s.
Dessert Forks	10s.	40s.	42s.
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Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED. Fiddle. Thread. King's.

	Fiddle.	Thread.	King's.
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DISH COVERS and HOT-WATER DISHES in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Tin Dish Covers, 6s. 6d. the set of six; Block Tin, 12s. 3d. to 25s. 9d. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 34s. to 58s. 6d. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 76s. 6d. to 110s. 6d. the set; Sheffield plated, 102. to 162. 10s. the set; Block Tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia Metal, 22s. to 77s.; Electro-plated on Nickel, full size, 117. 11s.

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IMPERIAL MEASURE. Half pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.

s Four half-pint bottles forwarded, CARRIAGE PAID, to any part of England, on receipt of a remittance of Ten Shillings.

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This Company was established in 1807, is empowered by the Act of Parliament 53 George III., and regulated by Deed enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

The Company was originally a strictly Proprietary one. The Assured on the participating scale, now participate quinquennially in four-fifths of the amount to be divided. To the present time (1853) the Assured have received from the Company in satisfaction of their claims, upwards of 1,400,000*l*.

The amount at present assured is 5,000,000*l*. nearly, and the income of the Company is about 125,000*l*. At the last Division of Surplus, about 120,000*l*. was added to the sums assured under Policies for the whole term of Life.

The lives assured are permitted, in time of peace, and not being engaged in mining or gold digging, to reside in any country—or to pass by sea (not being seafaring persons by profession) between any two parts of the same hemisphere—distant more than 35 degrees from the Equator, without extra charge.

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